# HAMILTON ANNUAL REPORT 2003

# TOWN OF HAMILTON

## 2003 ANNUAL REPORT

Town of Hamilton
Essex County
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Incorporated June 21, 1793
Area 14.99 Square Miles
Town Population 8645

Sixth Congressional District
Fifth Councilor District
First Essex and Middlesex Senatorial District
Fourth Essex Representative District

### State Officials

**Congressman:** John Tierney of Salem
**Senator:** Bruce E. Tarr of Gloucester
**Representative:** Brad Hill of Ipswich

### Town Hall Hours

**Monday: 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**
**Tuesday through Thursday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**
**Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon**

### IN MEMORIAM

Roland P. Berry
Thomas Haraden
Robert J. Learson
William A. Stechenfinger
Elaine L. Thomas

# TABLE OF CONTENTS


| | |
|---|---|
| In Memoriam | |
| Selectmen | i |
| Who's Who | 1-6 |
| Finance/Town Administration | |
| Director/Accountant | |
| Combined Balance Sheet | 7 |
| Combined Income Statement | 8 |
| Treasurer- Collector | 9-10 |
| Board of Assessors | 11 |
| Personnel Board | 12 |
| Health/Human Services | |
| Board of Health | 13-14 |
| Council on Aging | 15 |
| Hamilton Housing Authority | 16 |
| Handicap Access Committee | 16 |
| Veterans' Services | 17 |
| Public Safety | |
| Police | 18-19 |
| Fire | 20-21 |
| ECO | 22 |
| DPW | 23-28 |
| Sealer of Weights & Measures | 29 |
| Land/Building Use | |
| Conservation | 30-31 |
| Chebacco Woods Land Management | 32 |
| Planning | 33-34 |
| Community Action Planning Committee | 34 |
| Zoning Board of Appeals | 35 |
| Inspections | 36-37 |
| Regional | |
| Hamilton-Wenham Public Library | 38-39 |
| Hamilton-Wenham Recreation Board | 40 |
| Hamilton-Wenham Cultural Council | 41 |
| Education | |
| Hamilton-Wenham Regional District | 42-55 |
| North Shore Regional Vocational School | 56 |
| Town Clerk | 57-102 |

# BOARD OF SELECTMEN

2003 was a busy and innovative year for the Selectmen. David Neill retired after three terms as Selectman (and eight years on the Zoning Board of Appeals). James Bryant won David's seat at the May Town election.

After a summer of contention to arrive at a budget for the regional schools, the Selectmen initiated a community-wide discussion to seek ways to provide property tax relief for seniors and lower income residents. Out of this discussion came votes at the Fall 2003 Town Meeting authorizing filing two home rule petitions with the legislature, one to provide an exemption for homeowners whose income is below 80% of the town's median income, and one to provide for a lower interest rate for seniors who defer their property taxes. At this writing, the outcome in the legislature is uncertain, although the deferral interest proposal is being considered for statewide adoption.

In concert with the Town of Wenham and the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District, two new committees were established. The first is a Long-Range Planning Committee. This Committee has representatives of Hamilton and Wenham and the Regional School District, as well as citizen representatives from both towns. Among the purposes of this Committee are to develop long range plans for each entity based on common assumptions, identify possible areas for cost sharing in both operating and capital budgets.

The second committee is the Town School Budget Process Committee. This Committee is also composed of representatives of both towns and schools along with citizen members. This Committee has two primary goals. The first is to improve communication among the three entities with respect to the budget process. The second is to improve the dissemination of budget information to the citizens. The Committee plans to author informational pieces in the Hamilton-Wenham Chronicle and to send a mailer to every household prior to Town meetings.

A number of initiatives came to fruition this year. The senior van, which is a joint project with the Town of Wenham will go into service early next year. It will provide transportation five days a week to seniors within Hamilton and Wenham and neighboring communities for shopping and medical appointments. There are volunteer efforts planned to extend service to Saturdays.

The Master Plan was all but complete by December. The first recommendations will be brought to the voters at the May 2004 town meeting.

The Selectmen continue to be aware that the problem of the Town's aging and cramped public safety buildings needs to be addressed. May Town Meeting approved the cost of a feasibility study to recommend a design for new or refurbished public safety buildings. The Public Safety Committee chose a winning applicant, but with the defeat of Wenham's proposed new police station last summer, both Boards of Selectmen felt that the towns needed to explore the possibility of some form of regionalization of police and/or fire departments. The Towns plan to study the issue during a day-long retreat in January, 2004 and to engage a consultant to perform an independent financial analysis of possible cast savings.

The Liberty Road Milestones, known commonly as the Patton Pillars were restored to their original glory. Preservationist Louise Freedman toiled during the summer and fall to transform the time-worn monuments. The American Legion A.P. Gardner Post No.194 provided the protective winter covers, which will ensure the Pillars glory for many generations to come. David Neill, resident artist and former Selectman captured the restored Pillars for the Town Report cover.

**Paul L. Ricker, Chairman**

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2014

https://archive.org/details/townofhamiltonan2003unse

# WHO'S WHO

## TOWN ADMINISTRATION

**Selectmen (Elected)**
**Paul L. Ricker, 2004**
William F. Bowler, 2005
James E. Bryant, 2006

**Town Administrator**
**Candace P. Wheeler**
Maureen Hickey, Asst. Admin.
Jane Dooley, Minutes Secretary
Robert Timpani, Facilities Mainten.

**Town Counsel**
**Donna B. MacKenna**

**Town Moderator (Elected)**
**Bruce C. Ramsey, 2004**

**Town Clerk (Elected)**
**Theresa M. "Mimi" Fanning, 2005**
Jane Wetson, Asst. Town Clerk

**Registrar of Voters**
Mary Anne Burridge, 2005
Edward W. Seaver, Jr., 2003
Jim Richards, 2004
Theresa Fanning, ex-officio

**Personnel Board**
**Robert Bullivant, 2003**
Jack Akin, 2005
David Shaughnessy, 2005
Anne Marie Cullen, 2003
Larry Warner, 2004

**MAPC Representative**
**Richard Goehlert, 2003**

**MBTA Representative**
**Harry Boyles**

## FINANCE

**Finance Director/Accountant**
**Cheryl A. Robertson**
Dyan M. Katz, Asst. Accountant

**Treasurer/Collector**
**Cheryl J. Booth**
Margaret A. McLoughlin, Asst. Treas/Coll.
Christine L. Larcom, Admin. Asst.

**Assessors (Elected)**
**Robert H. Trussell, 2005**
Gelean M. Campbell, 2004
Steven Ozahowski, 2006
Thomas S. Hogan, Jr., Appraiser
Robin Nolan, Director of Office
Margaret C. Donovan, Admin. Asst.

**Finance/Advisory Committee**
**Laurie Wilson, 2005**
Steven Loeper, 2006
Lyman Stookey, 2004
Stephen Homer, 2004
Henrietta Gates, 2005

## HEALTH/HUMAN SERVICES

**Board of Health**
**Allen J. Ikalainen, 2004**
Stephen Druschel, 2005
Elizabeth Bernick, 2006
John Jacobi, Consultant Agent
Barbara Ikalainen, Animal Insp.
Gail Messelaar, Admin. Asst.
Doris Cole, Secretary

**Council on Aging**
**Helen Boyles**
Mary Maione
A. Wendell Day, Jr.
Andy Teshko
Dorothy Lamson
Alice Griffin
Donna Whipple
Mimi Fanning
Barbara Essensa
**Senior Services Coordinator**
Lindsey Snavely

**Housing Authority (Elected)**
**Leon Purington, State**

Robert Poole, 2007
Leigh Keyser, 2004
J. Robert Fanning, 2005
Jay Burnham, 2004

**Office on Disability**
Leigh Keyser
David Cooper

**Veterans Service Officer**
**Terrance Hart**

**Veterans' Graves Officer**
**Albert Lougee**

**Burial Agent**
**Terrance Hart**

**PUBLIC SAFETY**
**Police Chief**
**Walter D. Cullen**

**Police Officers**
Lt. Robert A. Nyland
Sgt. Paul R. Grant
Sgt. Donald D. Dupray
Sgt. Scott G. Janes

**Patrolmen**
Arthur Hatfield
Stephen Trepanier
Brian Shaw
Karen Wallace
Kenneth Nagy
Matthew Donovan
Michael Marchand
Richard Barthelmess
Stephen Walsh
Kent Richards

**Reserves**
Joe Achadinha
David Mastrianni
Sean Cullen
David Marsh
Charles Downey
Michael Wetson
Andrew Neill

Myrna Doran, Admin. Asst.
Rev. Louis Bourgeois, Chaplain
Lockup
Edward Seaver
Clarence Trepanier
Harbormasters
**Walter D. Cullen**
Robert Blanchard
Stephen Trepanier
Paul Accomando

**Parking Clerk**
**Theresa Fanning**

**Emergency Management Dir.**
**Walter D. Cullen**

**Fire Chief**
**Philip W. Stevens, Jr.**

**Deputy Chiefs**
Kenneth Brand
Daniel Parsons
Channing Howard
**Captain**
Daniel Ellison
Mark Goodwin
**Lieutenant**
Michael Twomey
Raymond Brunet
David Shaughnessy
Fred Day, Chaplain
**Firefighters**
Harold Allen
Joseph Allen
Gregory Chane
Brandon Clark
Jeremy Clark
Stephen Collins
Timothy Crosbie
Andrew Ellison
Keith Holloran
Donald Killam

Ronald Lees
Mark Wagner
Richard Ayer
Jeffery Cross
Francis Eldridge, Jr.
Edmund Mullin
Andre Painchaurd
Carl Potter
Glenn Preston
Kevin Preston
Michele Sargent
Alexander Shaw
Kenneth Shedden
Erick Tarr
Bill Tetrault
Peter Walton

**Fire Inspector/Hazardous Waste Coord.**
Daniel Parsons

**Forest Warden**
**Philip W. Stevens, Jr.**
**Deputy Forest Wardens**
Kenneth Brand
Daniel Parsons
Channing Howard
Daniel Ellison
Mark Goodwin
Michael Twomey
Ray Brunet
David Shaughnessy

**Emergency Communications Board**
Walter Cullen
William MacKenzie
Steven Kenney
Phil Stevens
Calvin Perkins
Daniel Lynch
Anne Marie Cullen

**Emergency Center Staff**
**Anne Marie Cullen, Director**
Kevin Harrison
Keith Holloran
Joe Achadinha
Brian Pratt
Kirby Brand
Cynthia Shaw
David Mastrianni
James McNeilly
Andrew Neill

**Public Works**
**Steven T. Kenney, Dir.**
Board of Selectmen serve
as Board of Public Works
Gail Hannable, Admin. Asst.
Nancy Stevens, Admin. Asst.
Harold Allen
Rick Campana
Kirk Davis
David Dolan
Gary Kureta
Jeff Mazzetta
John Miley
Paul Rigol
Joseph Shea
Timothy Shea
Greg Stevens

**TIP Coordinator**
**Steven Kenney**

**Tree/Insect Coordinator**
**Steven Kenney**

**LAND/BUILDING USE**
**Conservation Commission**
**Lisa Press, 2006**
John Hamilton, 2006
Virginia Cookson, 2004
Robert Cronin, 2003
Peter Dana, 2003
Paula Kent, 2002
Camilla Rich, 2004
John Rhoads, Aux
John Hendrickson, Aux
James Hankin, Coordinator
Miles River Task Force

**Planning Board (Elected)**
**Rick Mitchell, 2008**

Zachariah Bensley, 2004
Peter Clark, 2007
Susie Richey, 2004
Robin Willcox, 2005
Evelyn Shuman, 2006
Marc Johnson, 2008
Jean Nelson, Coordinator
Citizens Action Planning Committee

**Zoning Board of Appeals**
**Beth Ganister, 2005**
Winifred Whitman, 2003
David Sullivan 2004
Diane Meibaum, alt
Susan Wiltshire, alt

**Inspection Department(s)**
**Charles Brett, Building**
**Robert Brown, Electrical**
**William Thomas, Gas/Plumbing**

**Assistants**
John Caldwell
Mark Unger
Paul Marshall
Deborah Paskowski, Admin. Asst.

**Sealer of Weights and Measures**
**Robert Rose**

**Historic District Commission**
**Thomas Catalano, 2004**
Arthur Crosbie, 2005
Elizabeth Wheaton, 2004
Karl Schmith, 2005
James Donovan, 2005
Stephen Homer, 2003
Robert Payne, Alternate
Stephanie Serafino, Alternate

**Hamilton Historical Society**
**Arthur Crosbie**
Annette Janes
Linda Coonrod
Kay Turner
Emily Cook
Mary Anne Burridge
Edna Barney

**Road Safety Committee**
**Bradford Kimball**
Elly Andrews
Marie Buckley
Phyllis Cutler
Matt Donovan
Tim Ford
John Hamilton
John Hendrickson
Camilla Rich

**Chebacco Woods Mgmt.**
**Ralph Smith, 2004 - Manchester**
Virginia Cookson, 2005
Sue McLaughlin, 2003
Ann Barton, 2004
Bob Moroney, ex-officio MbyS

**Citizens Action Planning Committee**
Christine Berry
William Boesch
Peter Britton
David Carey
Grace Chmura
Charles Chivakos
Gretel Clark
Peter Clark*
Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld
Butch Crosbie
Peter Dana
Chris Davis*
Wendy DeFelice
Linda Donovan
Peter Dunbar
Will Fields
Tom Ford
Dana Hansen
Mary Helming
Maureen Hickey
Jackie Hodge
Betsy Hopkins
Marc Johnson*
Jack O'Keefe
Brad Kimball

Jack Lawrence
Walter Leszczynski
Bob MacRae
Rich McGrath
Rick Mitchell*
Steved Ozahowski
Susanne McLaughlin
David Parry
Joanne Patton
Paul Penner
John Rhoads
Evelyn Shuman
Dorothy Stookey
Carl Swanson
Michelle Teal
Peter Twining*
Rex Vanier
Raymond Whipple
Robin Wilcox*
Lindle Willnow
Susan Wiltshire*
*indicates Steering Committee Member also

## OTHER REGIONAL PROGRAMS

**Hamilton-Wenham Library Trustees (Elected)**

**Wendy Waller Daynes, 2005**
Blanche Day, 2005
Elizabeth Stanton,2006
Annette Janes, 2006
Ann St. Germaine, 2004
Doris Gallant, 2004

**Joint Library Committee**

Scott Maddern
Greg Keller
Alan Reid

**Hamilton-Wenham Library**

**James McShane, Dir.**
Diane Barrett
Lisa Craig-McCormack
Nancy Day
Kelly Flynn
Lorraine Der
Gilllian Crossley
Jeanine Curtis
Karen D'Ambrosio
Julie Preston
Brett DeBose
William Devitt
Anick Valiquette
Eileen Young
Tim Bean

**Hamilton-Wenham Recreation Board**

**Lindle Willnow**
Bob Kerrigan,
Renee LaForce-MacDonald
David Jones
David Parry
Margaret Whitesell, Director
Diane Brown, Admin. Asst.

**Hamilton-Wenham Cultural Council**

**Joanne Jones**
**Chris Eaton**
Sara delRio
Meg Crossan
Mary Anne Ciriello
Mary Jo Favazzo
Meredith Gisness
Theresa Wenheimer
Helen Ribet

**Hamilton-Wenham Technology Committee**

**Charles Furbur**
Tom Bishop
Tom Cannon
Jeff Ham
Dick Hewett
Bill Nichols
Charles Rogal
Jim Sullivan
Andy Wood

## SCHOOLS

**Superintendent of Schools**

**Marinel D. McGrath, Ed.D**

**Business Manager**

**Charles E. Cooke, III**

**School Administration**

Maryellen Duffy, Ed.D
Deborah Frontierro
Catherine Donovan
Jill Bonina
William Tyack
Jean Vitale
Nancy Smith
Lois McIntyre
Marie Neve
Debbie Capozzi
Martha Curran
Jennifer Ciaramella
Betty Minton
Elizabeth Stowell
Jacqueline Cooper
Trim Hahn, Principal
Susan Cooke, Principal
Martha Cesarz, Principal
Janis C. DeSantis, Principal
Christopher Rice, Principal

**Regional School District Committee**
**Donald Gallant, 2004**
Maureen Flores, 2004
Andrew Calkins, 2004
Lyman Stookey, 2004
Catherine Harrison, 2005
William Martin, 2005
William Patten, 2006
Elaine Carey, 2006
Nancy A. Morse, 2006

**Regional Vocational School Rep.**
**David W. Ketcham, 2006**

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
BALANCE SHEET

JUNE 30, 2003

| ASSETS | General | Nonmajor Governmental Funds | Total Governmental Funds |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cash and short-term investments | $ 1,729,082 | $ 1,431,615 | $ 3,160,697 |
| Investments | - | 64,273 | 64,273 |
| Receivables, net of uncollectibles: | | | |
| Real estate and personal property taxes | 105,251 | - | 105,251 |
| Real estate tax deferrals | 39,342 | - | 39,342 |
| Tax liens | 413,322 | - | 413,322 |
| Motor vehicle excise taxes | 36,631 | - | 36,631 |
| Departmental and other | - | 5,870 | 5,870 |
| Intergovernmental | 39,893 | 270,588 | 310,481 |
| Loans | - | 36,968 | 36,968 |
| Investment in joint venture | 412,864 | - | 412,864 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | $ 2,776,385 | $ 1,809,314 | $ 4,585,699 |
| LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES | | | |
| LIABILITIES: | | | |
| Warrants payable | $ 62,585 | $ 16,834 | $ 79,419 |
| Accrued payroll | 85,250 | 16,641 | 101,891 |
| Abandoned property | 2,288 | - | 2,288 |
| Other liabilities | 100,409 | - | 100,409 |
| Deferred revenues | 527,545 | 13,528 | 541,073 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 778,077 | 47,003 | 825,080 |
| FUND BALANCES: | | | |
| Reserved for: | | | |
| Encumbrances and continuing appropriations | 162,584 | - | 162,584 |
| Loans | - | 36,968 | 36,968 |
| Stabilization | - | 231,837 | 231,837 |
| Tip fee stabilization | - | 130,287 | 130,287 |
| Perpetual permanent funds | - | 280,981 | 280,981 |
| Unreserved: | | | |
| Designated for investment in joint venture | 412,864 | - | 412,864 |
| Designated for subsequent years' expenditures | 689,332 | - | 689,332 |
| Undesignated, reported in: | | | |
| General fund | 733,528 | - | 733,528 |
| Special revenue funds | - | 803,482 | 803,482 |
| Capital projects funds | - | 217,011 | 217,011 |
| Permanent funds | - | 61,745 | 61,745 |
| TOTAL FUND BALANCES | 1,998,308 | 1,762,311 | 3,760,619 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES | $ 2,776,385 | $ 1,809,314 | $ 4,585,699 |

See notes to basic financial statements.

**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

| | General | Nonmajor Governmental Funds | Total Governmental Funds |
|---|---|---|---|
| REVENUES: | | | |
| Real estate and personal property taxes, net of tax refunds | $ 14,374,648 | $ - | $ 14,374,648 |
| Tax liens | 69,472 | - | 69,472 |
| Motor vehicle and other excise taxes | 943,530 | - | 943,530 |
| Intergovernmental | 822,037 | 479,784 | 1,301,821 |
| Departmental and other | 627,672 | 587,228 | 1,214,900 |
| Contributions | - | 11,450 | 11,450 |
| Investment income | 47,502 | 27,766 | 75,268 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | 16,884,861 | 1,106,228 | 17,991,089 |
| EXPENDITURES: | | | |
| Current: | | | |
| General government | 950,685 | 1,440 | 952,125 |
| Public safety | 1,921,572 | 346,865 | 2,268,437 |
| Education | 10,800,796 | - | 10,800,796 |
| Public works | 1,449,162 | 382,570 | 1,831,732 |
| Human services | 109,601 | 4,896 | 114,497 |
| Culture and recreation | 629,214 | 190,738 | 819,952 |
| Pension benefits | 393,387 | - | 393,387 |
| Property and liability insurance | 115,452 | - | 115,452 |
| Employee benefits | 452,026 | - | 452,026 |
| State and county charges | 211,997 | - | 211,997 |
| Debt service: | | | |
| Principal | 185,000 | - | 185,000 |
| Interest | 102,829 | - | 102,829 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | 17,321,721 | 926,509 | 18,248,230 |
| EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES | (436,860) | 179,719 | (257,141) |
| OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES): | | | |
| Operating transfers in | 302,335 | 100,000 | 402,335 |
| Operating transfers out | (279,425) | (183,000) | (462,425) |
| TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) | 22,910 | (83,000) | (60,090) |
| NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES | (413,950) | 96,719 | (317,231) |
| FUND BALANCES AT BEGINNING OF YEAR | 2,412,258 | 1,665,592 | 4,077,850 |
| FUND BALANCES AT END OF YEAR | $ 1,998,308 | $ 1,762,311 | $ 3,760,619 |

See notes to basic financial statements.

**TREASURER/COLLECTOR**
**Annual Report**
**Calendar Year Ending**
**12/31/03**

I hereby submit my Annual Report as Treasurer/Collector for the Town of Hamilton for the calendar year ended December 31, 2003.

| | |
|---|---|
| **January 1, 2003** | **$4,024,952** |
| Receipts | $18,711,169 |
| Disbursements | ($19,644,757) |
| **December 31, 2003** | **$3,091,364** |

**Investments - December 31, 2003**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Stabilization Fund | $ | 252,170 |
| Clark Property Fund | $ | 219,971 |
| Conservation Commission | $ | 80,291 |
| Cultural Council | $ | 2,318 |
| Hamilton Shopping Center | $ | 25,547 |
| NESWC | $ | 131,022 |
| Trust Funds | $ | 439,490 |
| | $ | 1,150,809 |

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl J. Booth, CMMC
Treasurer/Collector

**TREASURER/COLLECTOR**
**Annual Report**
**Calendar Year Ending**
**12/31/03**

| COLLECTIONS | YEAR | January - June | July - December | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **REAL ESTATE** | | | | |
| | **2004** | $ 95,763 | $ 6,948,201 | $ 7,043,964 |
| | **2003** | $ 7,458,714 | $ 86,320 | $ 7,545,034 |
| | **2002** | $ - | $ - | $ - |
| **Prior to** | **2001** | $ - | $ - | $ - |
| | | $ 7,554,477 | $ 7,034,521 | $ 14,588,998 |
| **PERSONAL PROPERTY** | | | | |
| | **2004** | $ 41 | $ 60,687 | $ 60,728 |
| | **2003** | $ 56,743 | $ 507 | $ 57,250 |
| | **2002** | $ 3 | $ 30 | $ 33 |
| | | $ 56,787 | $ 61,224 | $ 118,011 |
| **MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE** | | | | |
| | **2003** | $ 739,631 | $ 157,618 | $ 897,249 |
| | **2002** | $ 34,140 | $ 10,968 | $ 45,108 |
| | **2001** | $ 1,321 | $ 978 | $ 2,299 |
| **Prior to** | **2000** | $ 380 | $ 469 | $ 849 |
| | | $ 775,472 | $ 170,033 | $ 945,505 |
| **BOAT EXCISE** | | | | |
| | **2003** | $ - | $ 2,511 | $ 2,511 |
| | **2002** | $ 125 | $ - | $ 125 |
| | **2001** | $ 145 | $ - | $ 145 |
| | | $ 270 | $ 2,511 | $ 2,781 |
| **WATER** | | | | |
| **Rates** | | $ 299,429 | $ 401,726 | $ 701,155 |
| **Liens** | | $ 15,531 | $ 2,152 | $ 17,683 |
| **Penalties & Interest** | | $ 154 | $ 153 | $ 307 |
| | | $ 315,114 | $ 404,031 | $ 719,145 |
| **TAX TITLES** | | $ 54,410 | $ 25,236 | $ 79,646 |
| **BETTERMENTS** | | $ 6,191 | $ 1,745 | $ 7,936 |
| **PENALTIES & INTEREST** | | $ 24,113 | $ 19,833 | $ 43,946 |
| **MUNICIPAL LIEN CERTIFICATES** | | $ 12,625 | $ 6,450 | $ 19,075 |
| **TOTAL** | | **$ 8,799,459** | **$ 7,725,584** | **$ 16,525,043** |

# BOARD OF ASSESSORS

For 2003, the total assessed taxable valuation of Hamilton is $1,202,077,600 with a property tax levy of $15,122,294. The fiscal year 2004 tax rate as certified by the Department of Revenue is $12.48 down .76 from the previous year. There were 313 building permits issued in 2003, including 11 new dwellings resulting in an additional $202,092 in tax levy growth.

In 2003, the Board of Assessors completed an interim year update of assessed valuations. Under Massachusetts's law, this Board was required to value all of Hamilton's 2,781 properties at 100 percent of their full and fair cash valuation, thereby insuring an equitable distribution of the property tax levy. As a result of this revaluation, the town's average single-family valuation increased 10 percent to 442,000 dollars. More importantly, we believe that we have met our statutory obligation to re-establish proper assessment level and uniformity throughout the town of Hamilton. Final Department of Revenue certification of assessed valuations was granted in December and property tax bills were subsequently mailed at the end of December.

This year also saw the Department of Revenue amend Chapter 203 of Acts of 1999, also known as the Hopkinton Bill. This requires Assessors, unless rejected by a vote of the Selectmen, to issue supplemental tax bills on new construction issued an occupancy permit after the July 1st assessment date. The Assessors must inspect and sign off on all occupancy permits before they can be issued. This has added an extra workload for the office and we are fortunate to have a highly qualified staff to deal with it.

The Assessors brought forward an article at Town meeting to accept a new exemption offered by the State, Clause 41D, which increased the asset and income limits and also the amount to be exempted off the taxes for those over 70 who qualify. Also Clause 17E, which increases the asset and income amounts by the COLA, amount as determined by the State each year. The Board will continue to bring forward any new options offered by the Commonwealth to help seniors deal with increasing property taxes.

We would like to assure all property owners that the Board of Assessors will continue its effort to meet the challenge of maintaining equitable assessments in this fluctuating real estate market.

**Robert H. Trussell, Chairman**

# BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board of Health is responsible for the overall stewardship of the public health and environmental protection of the town. Responsibilities are defined both by local bylaws and state law. The Board promotes, enacts, and enforces all health and environmental laws, rules and regulations. Additionally the Board of Health conducts health clinics, participates in education programs wherever possible and administers the contracts for a food inspection program, a public health nurse and communicable disease follow-up program, and animal inspection services.

The Board consists of three members serving three-year terms in rotation. Allen Ikalainen served as chairman. Stephen Druschel continued as a member and Elizabeth Bernick was appointed as a Board member. John Jacobi is the Health Agent. Gail Messelaar continued as Administrative Assistant as well as Doris Cole as part-time Administrative Assistant. The Animal Inspector, Barbara Ikalainen was nominated by the Board and approved by the State Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health and Dairying in March, 2003. Anne Jackman was reappointed as Assistant Animal Inspector.

Over sixty percent of the Board's funds and effort are concerned with the enforcement of the laws and regulations for sewage disposal. This included many site visits to existing and proposed home sites, review and approval of plans, and the issuing of treatment and disposal system permits. Our role also includes the inspection of construction of the sewage systems and involvement in the permit process for work on existing and new homes. The Board discussed updating the Town's sewage disposal regulations and will continue this process in the upcoming year.

Semi-annual food inspections were performed by Ernest Vieira at all permanent, limited and temporary establishments that sell and/or prepare food, including the school cafeterias in the Hamilton-Wenham School District.

Partner's Home Care provided public health, preventative health and health promotion services to the residents of Hamilton. These included:

tuberculosis screening;
immunization against other communicable diseases
communicable disease follow-up by telephone and/or home visits with completion of epidemiological survey;
one time home visits to high risk mothers and their newborns;
occasional home visits to assess an individual's health and safety and grief visits

Influenza immunization of elders and high-risk individuals at home and at clinics, funded by the Board of Health. A total of 196 people were vaccinated at our two clinics.

In April a rabies immunization clinic for dogs and cats was offered at the Town garage. The clinic was sponsored by the Veterinary Association of the North Shore. Gail Messelaar, Administrative Assistant, and part-time Administrative Assistant, Doris Cole provided assistance.

The Board cannot over emphasize the absolute need for dog and cat owners to obtain rabies vaccinations for their pets and revaccinations on the required schedule. Please have your cats and dogs vaccinated not only to protect their health but also to prevent rabies in humans, as pets are the bridge between ground animals and humans. Pets must be revaccinated within one (1) year of their initial vaccination and revaccinated as recommended by the Veterinarian or vaccine manufacturer thereafter.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Food and Agriculture, Division of Animal Health and Dairying requires all horses, ponies, cattle, sheep, goats, swine, and flocks of poultry numbering twenty-five (25) or more to be inspected and an annual census completed. The Inspector of Animals conducted inspections of the animals and their housing conditions at sixty-five(65) sites or addresses in the Town.

| | |
|---|---|
| Beef Cows | 19 |
| Horses | 358 |
| Ponies | 34 |
| Mini Donkeys | 19 |
| Goats | 12 |
| Sheep | 7 |
| Swine | 0 |
| Poultry Flocks | 0 |
| Ratites | 0 |
| Game Birds | 20 |
| Waterfowl | 16 |

During the year the Board performed the following reviews and issued the types and numbers of licenses listed below.

| | |
|---|---|
| Disposal Works Construction (New) | 13 |
| Disposal Works Construction (Repair) | 84 |
| Disposal Works Construction (Renewal or Transfer) | 1 |
| Subdivision Review | 1 |
| Food Establishment | 25 |
| Temporary Food Establishment | 4 |
| Disposal Works Installers | 46 |
| Exams for Disposal Works Installers | 3 |
| Septage Pumpers | 11 |
| Portable Toilets | 1 |
| Keeping of Animals | 40 |
| Stables | 40 |
| Wells | 13 |
| Pool Permits | 2 |
| Recreational Camps | 8 |
| Tobacco Sales Permits | 6 |

Numerous environmental and housing complaints were also investigated and properly handled in accordance with State regulations.

The Board also distributed the following number of doses of vaccines and biologics.

| Hep B | DTAP | IPV | Hib | MMR | DT | Td | PPV23 | PCV7 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 180 | 230 | 220 | 195 | 135 | 20 | 850 | 205 | 115 |

Total fees collected in calendar year 2003 were $20,167.65 (Fees/Permits-$26,113.25; Tobacco Sales Permits/Fines-$150.00; Septic Loan Installments-$2,904.40). These monies were turned over to the Town Treasurer.

**Allen Ikalainen, Chairman**

# PERSONNEL BOARD

The Personnel Board contributed another busy year of providing Human Resources management counsel to the Town's employees, department managers and elected officials.

Members of the Personnel Board also partnered with the Board of Selectmen, the Town Administrator and the respective department managers to negotiate collective bargaining agreements with the Police and Town Administrative employee unions.

Our involvement in search and selection committees helped bring some talented new employees into positions in Town Hall and the Police Department.

We are working continually to assure that the Town's compensation, benefit plans, Personnel Policies and Procedures and organizational structures are effective and appropriate to attract and retain the most qualified individuals to perform the work required of their positions.

In tandem with the Board of Selectmen and the Finance and Advisory Committee, the Personnel Board has begun efforts to design a new compensation plan for the Town's management and professional employees. We will also assist an employee advisory committee to consider alternatives in the medical insurance plan.

**Robert Bullivant, Chairman**

# COUNCIL ON AGING

The Hamilton Council On Aging had a busy and successful year serving the senior community. Helen Boyles resigned as COA Chairman in preparation for a move out of the area. Helen dedicated many hours toward establishing new and creative programs for seniors. Two new members were appointed by the Selectmen to the Council On Aging; Theresa "Mimi" Fanning and Barbara Essenza. Theresa "Mimi" Fanning was named as the new Chairman of the COA.

Increased communication to the Hamilton senior community was a major focus of the Council's efforts. With the assistance of dedicated volunteers, the Council was able to publish and mail a quarterly senior newsletter to over 850 head of household residents. In addition, the Council maintains an office at the former Hamilton Library with a 24 hour answering service. Telephone calls received range from program reservations to requests for information and referral on elder service issues.

Hamilton seniors were able to choose from a wide variety of program offerings that included day trips to the Beverly Historical Society, Scholars Den at Essex Agricultural Institute, Foxwoods Casino, Amesbury Playhouse, Charles River Boat Cruise, Christmas Tree Shops, Lake Winnepesaukee, and the Massachusetts State House. Special events and educational programs were well attended and included; Elder Law Education, Summer Cookout, Memoir Writing classes with Annette Jaynes, Polynesian Harvest Luncheon, Senior Center Open House, "Images of America, Hamilton" Book Review and lunch with Annette Jaynes, and SeniorCare Coffee Forum. Promoting our "Stay Healthy"series, the Council established a free blood pressure clinic on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at the Senior Center from 10 am – 12 noon. In December, COA Board members delivered holiday fruit baskets to 23 Hamilton residents over the age of 90 who live in their own homes.

During the past year the community was updated on the progress of the Joint Hamilton-Wenham Council on Aging van project. Hamilton COA representatives Alice Griffin, Harold Simpson, and Dana Hansen volunteered many hours in formulating the initial design and policy of this critical program. With the arrival of the van late in the year, service was slated to begin in January 2004.

The Hamilton Council On Aging has always functioned with the efforts of many volunteers. As the program continues to grow and serve the needs of our many senior residents, the Council On Aging welcomes the ideas, suggestions, and active participation of Hamilton seniors.

**Lindsey D. Snavely, Senior Services Coordinator**

## HAMILTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Housing Board is still actively looking for available land in the town, where several affordable houses can be built. The percentage of low-income homes in the town is still very low and could affect funds that come from the state for operation of town services.

The Board has several projects going on at the housing unit on Railroad Avenue, with new electric controlled security doors at each of the apartment units. The kitchen areas of each apartment are being upgraded, with new cabinets and sink units. This project will continue until all units are done.

The Board has been very fortunate to have Julie Martineau, director and her staff keeping the day to day operation of Housing running smoothly, and the move to have the Ipswich Housing Board to contract to operate the Hamilton Unit is turning out to be a very positive step to make sure our operations runs smoothly.

One sad note on the Board occurred, with the passing of Bill Stechenfinger, our "in house" Board member, as we called him. Bill was always right there to take care of any problems that might come up in the units and make calls to repairmen or whatever was needed to handle the situation. Bill spent time working on plans for cookouts, or gatherings for the tenants, as these were his family he said, so he made it a point to take care of them.

Jay Burnham, was appointed to fill the vacancy on the Board, until the next election and he would then apply for papers to be nominated for election to fill a complete term on the board.

Members of the Housing Authority are, Leon Purington, Chairman, Leigh M Keyser, Vice Chairman, Robert Fanning, Treasurer, Robert Poole, Secretary., and Jay Burnham, Recording Secretary.

**Leon Purington, Chairman**

## HANDICAP ACCESS COMMITTEE

The access committee is appointed by the selectmen to review any complaints made to the town regarding access for the disabled and handicapped folks of this town.

The past year was quiet one for this committee. One citizen called the town hall to state that the handicapped signs at the Hamilton Shopping Center need to be spaced around the parking area in front of the stores, as right now, they mostly located in front of the empty CVS store and the Village Market.

The Committee reported this comment to the Hamilton Shopping Center management. The response was immediate, as several of the handicap signs appeared in other locations in the parking lot.

The Committee will be looking at records to see if any further action needs to be taken to bring the town up to date with access rules and regulations. David Cooper a member of the Committee has been very helpful in this research of the files.

**Leigh M Keyser, Chairman**

## EASTERN ESSEX DISTRICT
## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

This department is charged under Chapter 115 Massachusetts General Laws with providing all manner of services to veterans and their dependents including widow(er)s. Principal workload under state law includes the administration of aid to veterans and dependents, which deals with the unpredictable variables of illness, unemployment, unemployability, labor disputes and the economy. Communities fund this program, which is subsequently 75% reimbursed the following fiscal year by the Commonwealth. This is a need based program and the department is required to conduct periodic comprehensive review of the cases to insure no substantive facts have changed, while working with the veteran to identify alternative or long-term solutions to individual circumstances. During the calendar year one Hamilton veteran was on this program. Under state law the department also assists qualified veterans to obtain bonuses, and qualified veterans, widows and parents to obtain state annuities, property tax abatements, and other benefits.

The Veterans' Services program also mandates extensive interaction within the federal community, principally with the Department of Veterans' Affairs. The Veterans' Service Officer (VSO) assists veterans and their dependents in filing for pensions, service connected injury/illness compensation, dependency indemnity compensation for survivors, VA healthcare enrollment, insurance claims, decedent claims, and many other issues. Federal benefits processed by this department are paid directly to those eligible to receive the assistance or entitlement. Federal VA dollars brought into this community exceed $750,000 annually, with the current staff responsible for approximately $154,000 paid to or saved by those assisted in Hamilton. Additionally, the department interacts within the federal community to correct military records, obtain needed documentation and insure veterans/dependents receive awards and recognition to which entitled. The VSO provided information, advice or assistance to 83 of the town's 430 *identified* veterans and 4 of the 75 *identified* veterans' widows.

The Director and the Assistant to the Director, Georgia Gadbois, advocate for veterans at the local, state and federal level, interact with elected and appointed officials on many issues, and work with local organizations in serving the community. This year the department provided information or assistance on the Patton Park Pillars, Yankee Division Plaque presented on Memorial Day, and many other issues. We also provided support and information assistance for National Guard and Reserves called to service in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families. The District sponsored a Korean War Commemorative ceremony in June in which 20 of the 173 honorees were Hamilton veterans. Special guests included Korean Consul General Jayson Park, Lieutenant Governor Kerry Healey, Senator Bruce Tarr, Representative Brad Hill, and Town Administrator Candace Wheeler.

The Eastern Essex District is composed of the Towns of Essex, Georgetown, Hamilton, Ipswich, Rowley, West Newbury and Wenham. A Board of Directors consisting of one Selectman (or designee) from each town maintains oversight. Mr. Paul Ricker is the Hamilton member of the Board of Directors.

**Terrance P. Hart, District Director**

# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Once again I am proud to report that the members of the Hamilton Police Department have completed another successful year of operations. Each member of this department can take credit for the overall team effort that is put forth each and every day to serve the citizens of this community. We continue to recognize the threat of domestic terrorism but through necessity focus on the day-to-day needs of this community while striving to maintain the quality of life that you have come to expect.

The economic challenges of operating a tax based agency are ever present. Having operated for many years at resource levels below that which was considered adequate to truly serve the community we were fortunate to add one officer to our roster in the last quarter of 2001. This staffing level returned the department to the same staffing level that was required twenty years earlier! It seemed that for many years we had simply been asked to do more with less. In reality we had been doing far more than even we had appreciated with far less than most of you realized.

As a law enforcement entity it is only natural that this department is judged by the level and quality of the services that are provided. Generally this activity is divided between the recognized goals and objectives of police agencies; crime prevention, law enforcement and public service. The Hamilton Police Department is not unlike other agencies of similar size when these goals and objectives are statistically reviewed in relation to the more than 145 categories of calls for service routinely handled by our officers. As we once again face the possibility of having to do more with less I offer a summary of this past year's major categories of department activity as compared to the same categories in calendar year 1993.

This department is proud to serve the people of Hamilton and will continue to offer the highest level of professionalism.

**Walter D. Cullen, Police Chief**

# ***Hamilton Police Department***
# ***Statistical Analysis***

| Category | 1993 | 2003 | Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Population Served | 7125 | 8315 | +16.70% |
| Police Dept. Personnel | 14 | 15 | + 7.10% |
| Calls for Service Received | * | 17,592 | N/A |
| Duplicate Calls (ie: multiple calls for same incident) | * | 2416 | N/A |
| Non-Police Calls | * | 2515 | N/A |
| ***Official Calls for Police Service*** | 6558 | 12,661 | +93.06 |
| Enhanced "911" calls dialed in error (1) | * | 346 | +100.00 |
| **Sample of Activity** | | | |
| Ambulance Dispatched | 462 | 736 | +59.30 |
| Ambulance Transports | 250 | 330 | +32.00 |
| Animal Calls | 217 | 682 | +214.00 |
| Domestic Disturbances | 67 | 119 | + 77.60 |
| General Disturbances | 122 | 226 | +85.20 |
| Public Service/Community Policing | 1671 | 1991 | +19.15 |
| **Sample of Criminal Activity** | | | |
| Federal Index Crimes | 88 | 114 | +29.50 |
| Court Cases | 110 | 199 | +80.90 |
| General Criminal Activity | 474 | 647 | +36.49 |
| Traffic Enforcement Activity | 2171 | 3287 | +51.40 |
| Non-criminal Complaints | 2132 | 2321 | + 8.90 |

* New statistic not available in 1993

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Hamilton Fire Department has the following apparatus available for service:

| | |
|---|---|
| ENGINE 1 | 1996 Pierce Saber 1250 gpm pumper |
| ENGINE 2 | 1985 International S-1800/Ranger 1000 gpm pumper |
| ENGINE 3 | 2004 Pierce Saber 1500 gpm pumper |
| LADDER 4 | 1980 American LaFrance 100' Aerial Ladder |
| SQUAD 1 | 1991 Ford/Greenwood Forestry Truck (4X4) |
| MOBILE AIR UNIT 6 | 1994 Ford Air Supply Van |
| SQUAD 7 | 1995 Ford F-250 Pick-up (4X4) |

The Fire Department responded to 463 incidents in 2003.

**INCIDENTS 2003**

| | |
|---|---|
| Fire/Explosion | 37 |
| Rescue Call | 49 |
| Hazardous Condition | 74 |
| Service Call | 41 |
| Good Intent Call | 67 |
| False Call | 191 |
| Special Type/Complaint | 4 |

The Fire Department currently has (4) fulltime members that man the station on weekdays from 6AM to 6PM. The station is manned on weekends by (3) call personnel. The Fire Department relies on its call force for manpower. There are (31) call firefighters. Many residents of the town are surprised to find out that no firefighters sleep at the station. At night, firefighters respond from their homes.

The call firefighters did not take their 2% raise last year to help the Department and the Town through its budget crisis. The call firefighters are on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. They deserve a lot of credit, they well trained and they are available at a moments notice. They save the town a considerable amount of money. Without these loyal members, we would need a fulltime department.

Firefighter/EMT Edmund Mullin completed the 11 weeks Recruit Course at the Mass Firefighting Academy. He also passed the certification test for Firefighter II.

Firefighter Brandon Clark and Firefighter/EMT Andrew Ellison passed the Firefighter I/II certification test as well. They completed the Recruit Training Course that was held in Manchester-by-the-Sea along with FF Stephen Collins and FF/EMT Michele Sargent.

Probationary Firefighters Andre Painchaud and Jeremy Clark are currently attending the Recruit Training Course sponsored by the Mass Firefighting Academy being held at Masconomet. They should complete the course in early 2004.

The Department received a $91,184 grant through the Federal Fire Act to purchase new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus. This was a competitive grant and the Department

had to match the grant with 10%. We also received a $21,000 grant from the state for the purchase of a thermal imaging camera and turn out gear. We will be applying for more grants in the future.

The new Engine 3 was completed in December and should be in service in early 2004. The 1976 Pumper will be traded in at that time.

Our cascade air system is currently being upgraded. Fire Department personnel are doing the work.

The Hamilton and Wenham Fire and Police Departments have been working with town officials and the League of Women Voters to explore more shared services, mergers, and regionalization as possible ways to save money. The Fire Department works closely with the area Fire Departments, Police, and DPW.

Lack of space continues to be a problem. Hopefully, this can be worked out in the near future.

The Fire Department is there for the citizens of Hamilton no matter what help may be needed.

**Philip W. Stevens, Jr., Fire Chief**

# HAMILTON-WENHAM EMERGENCY CENTER

The dispatchers of the Hamilton-Wenham Emergency Center are proud to have served the citizens of our two towns to the best of our ability.

We are the control point for all emergency and non-emergency calls for public safety. Both towns are fortunate to have employees who put the needs of others above all else.

During the past year, town departments have assisted each other on a daily basis. This co-operation is a normal part of the day. Following are some examples of shared services during 2003.

On January 19, a serious fire engulfed the Bruni complex in Ipswich and men and equipment responded from both Hamilton and Wenham. On June 23, a call was received of a party in the woods near Pleasant Pond. Both police departments co-operated on a thorough search of the woods. On October 4, an intensive search was launched for a missing boy in the Gordon College/Chebacco Woods area. All public safety departments were involved as well as State Police, Essex Police and Beverly Police. On October 14, while Wenham officers were involved in handling an accident, a Hamilton officer photographed the scene. On November 6, Hamilton Police and Fire responded to a fatal accident in Hamilton. A Wenham officer assisted by taking the required photographs. On November 17, Hamilton Police received a call of a hostage situation. While Hamilton officers went directly to the scene, Wenham officers immediately began to secure the surrounding area. In this incident, State Police also responded with the negotiation team and the S.T.O.P. team. During this situation, Ipswich Police sent a cruiser manned by a Sergeant and a patrolman to patrol the town and handle calls. On December 7, we received a call of a suspicious person watching the children at Cutler School. Wenham Police checked the Buker School and located the subject. Both departments questioned the man who was thinking about relocating to the area.

Many times the departments assisted each other by diverting traffic away from accidents, assisting with unruly arrests, responding to back up officers at domestic calls and providing manpower for fires in the neighboring towns.

During construction of the Essex Emergency Center, we ran queries on the CJIS computer for them. We have a reciprocal agreement with the Town of Ipswich regarding spill over 9-1-1 calls as well as relocation of the communication center in case of an emergency.

Each of these examples show how hard we work to provide the best possible service for the residents of Hamilton and Wenham.

We are privileged to work and in many cases, live in Hamilton and Wenham. Thank you to the men and women who work to provide the quality of life we all enjoy.

**Anne Marie Cullen, Chief Dispatcher**

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

## HIGHWAY DIVISION

ROAD PROGRAM

The Highway Department conducted several road projects even though the Commonwealth of Massachusetts did not fully subsidize their nominal amount of money once again. This was made possible by the support of the community through the generous approval of the annual $188,000.00 override and extending the program two more years, keeping these projects on course.

The following roads have been completed:

Essex Street - Phase 2 (from Miles River Road to Alan Road) was completely rebuilt. The road surface was mechanically ground up with a 3" binder and we laid a 2" topcoat of bituminous asphalt. In addition, the asphalt sidewalk was rebuilt.

Bridge Street (from Hunter Lane to Essex Street) was completely rebuilt similar to Essex Street resulting in the entire length of Bridge Street being paved.

To address drainage problems, the first 1,000 feet of Moulton Street (starting at Sagamore Street) is equipped with asphalt berms and has been reclaimed and paved.

In the spring, Honeysuckle, Madonna, Anthony Road and Lake Shore Avenue all received a topcoat of new asphalt.

Chebacco Road (from the old Town Beach and ending at house #390) had a base coat of asphalt before the first snow. In the spring we will complete this work and install a salamander tunnel near house #375 to help the amphibians on their journey to a nearby vernal pool.

I realize these projects can be a nuisance to our residents and appreciate your patience.

In conjunction with Massachusetts Highway and the MBTA, the Cutler Road Bridge Project commenced in the spring. However, this project was put on hold in November. The Town is not involved in this project therefore, the good news is it doesn't directly cost the Town any money but the bad news is we have no control over its construction or timetable. The completion date for the bridge was slated for November 2003 but has now been extended to April 2004. For public safety concerns the new bridge will be a great improvement and should be esthetically pleasing.

HIGHWAY MAINTENACE

The Town received annual bids for catch basin cleaning and street sweeping as our 746 catch basins were cleaned and 60 miles of road were swept without incident.

To address the Town's drainage problems, the DPW obtained several permits through the Conservation Commission in order to clear and clean various culverts. I appreciate their cooperativeness and assistance in the Town's flooding and drainage issues. We still have several ongoing projects that include replacing a culvert on Elm Street, repair/replacing culverts on Linden Street.

The DPW continues our road shoulder work by removing built up soils in some areas, adding gravel to others, as well as cutting back brush and vegetation. Rather than subcontracting labor for line painting, the Highway personnel painted most of the traffic lines in town utilizing our own line-painting machine, enabling us to save money. Snow removal and sanding continue to go smoothly, due to the dedication of our DPW personnel during icy weather and snowstorms.

As usual, the DPW has had a busy year with tree work. We worked on 76 trees using both in-house and contracted labor. A large percentage of the Town's trees are maturing at the same time, therefore, the pace of work needed is escalating. There are various diseases that shorten the life of trees in our elms, maples, ash and hemlocks that make up a large portion of our tree inventory. Due to funding problems, the DPW was unable to replace any of the trees we took down with new trees. Hopefully, we can plant several next year. We planted four new trees along our roadways and in Patton Park hoping that future generations can enjoy them.

The opening up of the landfill to citizens for the disposal of brush and organic debris continues to be popular. We have numerous residents taking advantage of these weekend drop-offs resulting in the delivery of five truckloads of chipped brush to Brick-end Farm, a compost facility located on Highland Street.

## PARK DIVISION

Patton Park continues to be the main focus of playing fields for the sports teams of the various joint recreation programs. This heavy use places a burden on our park but with our staff's diligence and materials purchased through the joint recreation funds we continue to keep it in excellent shape.

We received bids for the dredging of Weaver Pond with the low bid being $65,000.00. At the Annual Town Meeting this spring, the voters will have a chance to voice their opinions on whether or not to make this expenditure.

The rebuilding of the tennis courts consisted of the old courts being ground up and replaced with new courts. The courts received a final coat of fresh paint and are surrounded by a new fence. Lights were upgraded at the tennis court and the youth football practice field received new lighting. The big league field acquired new benches and the basketball court new backboards. This was made possible by funds from the Town and Joint Rec Board as well as in house labor.

Although the DPW has not had the time or funding this year, we continue to try and improve the other two parks (School Street and Cutler) to help relieve Patton Park from some of its burden and make them more appealing for neighborhood and public use.

## CEMETERY DIVISION

The Cemetery remains in excellent condition. The Cemetery Foreman kept busy mowing well into what is normally planting and pruning season. We continue our fight with the Japanese Beetle grubs using biological means and not using chemical pesticides with positive results. It is attentiveness and dedication that reflects the superb condition of the Cemetery.

The Cemetery conducted the following business:
Sale of lots: $7,750.00
Perpetual Care: $7,050.00
Openings and Foundations: $16,710.00

Last year the Cemetery Department created a site set aside solely for cremation burials that has become increasingly popular. Lots are available to citizens or long time residents at the following rates and can be purchased at the public works office.

| | |
|---|---|
| Cremation Lot (6): | $ 450.00 |
| Standard Single Grave Lot: | $ 450.00 |
| Standard Four Grave Plot: | $1,450.00 |

## EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

I would like to thank the residents for their support at Town Meeting again in allowing us to continue upgrading and maintaining our fleet of vehicles. Although our purchases have been reduced due to budget cuts, we were able to make our final payment on our Front End Loader.

Our fuel system passed its annual inspection with no problems. The new computerized leak detection and fuel-dispensing system is working well.

## SANITATION

Our contract with Hiltz Disposal Services for curbside pick-up continues to perform the rubbish, recycling and leaf pick up needs for the Town.

Our "pay as you throw" program for metals, tires, TV's, computer monitors, fluorescent lights and refrigerators has been very successful this year. The DPW was able to recycle these materials at no cost to the general taxpayer as only the individuals who use the service pay for them. We continue our no cost drop-off of cardboard and Nickel/Cadmium batteries at Town Hall. We have expanded our efforts in the mercury thermostats or any mercury-containing product at no cost and continue our thermometer exchange program to eliminate these items from our waste stream. I feel it is important to recycle as much as possible, not only from an environmental but also an economical standpoint. After 2005, the Town will no longer be under the current restrictive contract with Wheelabrator allowing us to be more resourceful with our refuse recovery and recycling efforts. Our routine practices that we adopt now will prepare us from high disposal costs in the future. Recycling bins for curbside pickup are available at Town Hall for new residents or new participants wishing to get involved with the recycling program. Additional bins are available for a nominal fee of $5.00.

Our refuse disposal and recycling figures for 2003 were as follows:

| | 2002 | 2003 |
|---|---|---|
| Municipal Household Waste: | 3175 tons | 3172 tons |
| Commingled Curbside Recycling: | 607.52 tons | 636.68 tons |
| Leaf Collection and Composting: | 110 tons | 90 tons |
| All Metals: | 153.77 tons | 158.25 tons |
| Tires | 132 each | 234 each |
| Household Hazardous Waste | N/A | 179 car loads |
| Corrugated Cardboard: | 15.99 tons | 11.48 tons |
| TV and Computer Monitors | 230 each | 420 each |
| Nickel/ Cadmium Batteries – 5 gallon pail: | 1 each | 1 each |
| Mercury – 5gallon pail: | 1 each | 1 each |

Although our population has grown our production of waste has dropped and recycling has increased. This demonstrates the community's commitment to recycling and other environmentally sound practices. We were able to hold a Household Hazardous Waste day event in conjunction with the Town of Wenham this fall with much success.

## WATER DIVISION

The Gordon "Tiny" Thompson Filtration Plant is running well and is producing several hundred thousand gallons of clean water per day. The water leaving the plant is almost free of all metals, which has greatly improved the water quality potential in town. There is still work to do within the distribution system, such as hydrant flushing, main installation, and main replacement to improve the water that is supplied to some parts of town. In general our water quality continues to improve.

Additional work continues on renovations at the School Street and Patton well buildings. These two newly renovated sites will augment the water supply from the Idlewood well field when needed and act as a backup for emergency situations. We have also installed bulk storage at School Street to allow for better purchasing power from the suppliers saving the Town money.

We have been working on the DEP approval of a deep, (120') well at the Idlewood well field that we anticipate completing by next spring. We currently have an electrical contractor installing the last of the telemetric and electrical system. The water quality from this well is superior to the existing wells we use from this location. The addition of this well will allow us to use less chemicals and power for treatment; and therefore, not place such a direct burden on the water going to the Idlewild Brook and the Ipswich River Watershed.

Our pumpage is up from last year, although it is inline with our population increase. Our use per capita is down from last year, showing the commitment that the community has to protect our well fields and the Ipswich River Basin. We encourage our customers to conserve wherever possible, not only is this appropriate environmentally, this practice will save you money

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2000 | 180,730,000 = Avg. GPD/PP: | 60.9 | Highest daily usage: | 924,000 on July 13 |
| 2001 | 250,839,000 = Avg. GPD/PP: | 84.5 | Highest daily usage: | 1,564,000 on Aug. 8 |
| 2002 | 209,173,000 = Avg. GPD/PP: | 69.9 | Highest daily usage: | 1,102,000 on June 16 |
| 2003 | 239,777,000 = Avg. GPD/PP: | 59.0 | Highest daily usage: | 820,000 on Aug. 26 |

GPD/PP = Gallons per day / per person using census numbers.

Hydrant flushing remains a priority, as this is routinely completed in the spring and fall. Although the filtration plant is producing clean water, we must continue to perform this task until the mains are free from iron and manganese deposits. Thereafter, we will flush dead end mains annually, to assure water circulation and quality.

In anticipation of paving projects, the Water Division replaced services on Lake Shore Avenue, Essex, Bridge, and Moulton Streets. They also replaced, installed, or repaired 18 hydrants, 22 services and 94 meters. Work is still in process with Manchester-by-the-Sea to tie into their main on Chebacco Road in order to allow for better fire protection to residents from the boat ramp to the Town line. With this in mind, we installed almost 1,800 feet of 8" ductile iron pipe along Chebacco Road from the Town beach to house #390 prior to the road being paved. Hopefully, there will be a tie into Manchester's water system in the near future.

Our Water Division field personnel, as well as other DPW employees, have met the needs for the ever-changing technical field of water treatment by taking exams and receiving advanced Drinking Water Certification Certificates.

I submit this Annual Report of the Department of Public Works to the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of the Town of Hamilton to which I have the pleasure of working for. If any citizen is in need of more information or has questions or comments concerning the DPW, please feel free to call us at 468-5580 or 5581.

**Steven T. Kenney, Director of Public Works**

# CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Hamilton Conservation Commission's primary task is the administration and enforcement of the state Wetlands Protection Act (Ch. 131 §40) and the Town's Conservation By-Law, Chapter 17. The Commission also seeks to fulfill its mandate by funding environmental education programs in the regional school system and by organizing and publicizing various conferences and events that seek to protect open space and inform residents of the value of preservation of woodlands and scenic areas as well as trail access and management.

Conservation Commission jurisdiction and procedure:

The Commission's jurisdiction includes all proposed changes in land use which will occur within defined wetlands or within 100 feet of the defined edge of wetlands, or within 200 feet of the perennial streams and rivers within the borders of the Town. The Commission considers applications (known as "Requests for Determination" and also "Notices of Intent") for work in these areas and holds site walks to evaluate the conditions at the work area. The Commission then conducts public hearings or public meetings to decide if a permit (either a "Negative Determination" or an "Order of Conditions") shall issue. Once a project is completed, the Commission holds another site walk to establish that the project was finished in the same manner as it was originally proposed and that no damage to resource areas has occurred. A Certificate of Compliance is then issued and the process is complete. The Commission also investigates violations of the Wetlands Act and local Conservation By-Law and the Commission issues Enforcement Orders or Violation Notices if appropriate.

2003 Special Projects and Issues:

The Commission undertook several initiatives in 2003. First, the paving of Chebacco Road afforded the Commission and the Department of Public Works a unique opportunity to preserve and enhance the endangered salamander species in that part of Town. The installation of a salamander tunnel crossing beneath the newly paved road, the cost borne equally by the Commission and the DPW, will maintain critical habitat and will also provide important data on the effectiveness of these tunnel crossings for other towns and cities. The Commission notes that this type of intra-departmental cooperation is essential in the current fiscal climate and thanks DPW for their support and assistance.

Second, the Commission held a series of public hearings attended by many individuals and groups active in the local horse and trails community. These hearings culminated in the issuance of an Equestrian Use Policy. Through the policy, the Commission seeks to preserve the unique equestrian characteristics of Hamilton while at the same time protecting the wetlands and other resource areas in town from avoidable adverse impacts that can result from unregulated animal land use.

Third, the Commission participated in the process for drafting a new Master Plan for Hamilton. The members reviewed draft chapters on Land Use and Open Space and filed a detailed and comprehensive comment on the Chapters for the Planning Board's review.

# SEALER OF WEIGHT AND MEASURES

All devices used to weigh or measure for commerce in the Town of Hamilton have been tested and sealed in accordance with state regulations. The Treasurer/Collector received all fees collected.

| Business | Device | Revenue |
|---|---|---|
| A & M Motors | Gasoline Pumps | $320 |
| Brand Co | Scales | $20 |
| CVS | Scales | $35 |
| Family Medical Center | Scales | $35 |
| Meadowbrook Farms | Scales | $30 |
| Hamilton Convenience Store | Gasoline Pumps | $160 |
| Hungry Fox | Scales | $10 |
| Junction Ice Cream | Scales | $60 |
| Marko's Pizza | Scales | $20 |
| Oliver Gulf | Gasoline Pumps | $240 |
| Villager Market | Scales | $120 |
| Welsh & Lamson | Fuel Oil Trucks, Rack Test and Diesel Oil Dispensers | $120 |

Robert D. Rose, Sealer

Fourth, and finally, the Commission's Open Space Subcommittee has been hard at work revising the Hamilton Open Space Plan. The Subcommittee plans to have the revised plan finalized, approved and in place by the end of 2004.

Education Program

The Commission once again funded, with the participation of private donors in Wenham covering the Wenham share of the costs, an Environmental Education program for the students in almost all grade levels in the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District. The program is designed and run by the Massachusetts Audubon Society and it is subject to in-depth review and amendment by the Commission annually. The Commission continues to enthusiastically support and promote this program.

2003 Filings and Other Regulatory Decisions

23 Requests for Determination
20 Orders of Conditions
1 Amended Order of Conditions
6 Modifications of Orders of Conditions
7 Enforcement Orders and Violation Notices
11 Extensions
15 Certificates of Compliance
2 Conservation Restrictions Approved

**Lisa Press, Chair**

## CHEBACCO WOODS LAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

During fiscal year 2003, the Committee focused on five areas of interest: updating the trail maps, implementing the major trail maintenance project, researching and rectifying various abutter encroachments, documenting the amendments to the Land Management Plan, and conducting monthly walks.

To assist law enforcement and safety officials as well as visitors, the Committee ordered 6 inch lettered metal disks which have been nailed high enough in trees to avoid vandalism but low enough to be seen by visitors to enable them to understand their location in the Woods. New trail maps will be ordered with the locations of the disks marked for easy reference.

Based on the survey work done by Hancock Associates, the Committee discovered various encroachments on the property. Minor offenders have been given notice to remove various materials. Compliance will be investigated in the Spring. The Committee is currently working with the two Town Administrators, town counsel, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, and the property owners involved to solve the remaining encroachments.

As of July 1, 2003, the Land Management Plan was amended to reflect duly approved changes in the plan making the Committee directly responsible for the lawful conduct of its duties.

Sue McLaughlin, often aided by Virginia Cooksen, continued to conduct monthly walks on the property.

Due to postponement of the trail project, the Committee spent only $242.50 of its approved total budget of $1,600.

**R.C. Smith, Chair**

# PLANNING BOARD

## ORGANIZATION

Chairman Gregg Haladyna did not run for reelection at the end of his five-year term. The Board thanks Mr. Haladyna for his contributions as Planning Board member and Chairman. Marc Johnson and Rick Mitchell were each elected to a five-year term at the May election. The Board elected Rick Mitchell as Chairman, and Marc Johnson as Vice-Chairman.

## APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED PLANS

The Board approved the following Form A, or ANR Plans, in 2003:

.308/310 Lake Drive, lot line reconfiguration, no new lots created
..21 Cottage Street, lot line reconfiguration to include purchase of former railroad land, no new lots created
..49/149 Miles River Road, one lot divided into two lots, and a parcel to be deeded to an abutting property owner

## DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION PLANS

..Overhead Drive Subdivision, 91 Walnut Road, for six lots. The plan was denied.

## SITE PLAN REVIEWS

..Pingree School, Highland Street, for temporary classroom building
..Pingree School, Highland Street, for demolition and addition of a wing
..Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, renovations to the Kerr Building
.Hamilton Family Markets, LLC, for renovations and exterior changes at Hamilton Shopping Center at Villager Market and the former CVS location
..Town of Hamilton, Depot Square, preliminary Site Plan Review of conceptual plan

## ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENTS

..The Planning Board held a public hearing for two zoning by-law amendments in March.

A Citizen's Petition had been presented, proposing to amend Section V.A.9.b, to reduce the minimum amount of area required to a barn. Following the public hearing and discussion with the proponents, a recommendation was made to pass over the amendment at Town Meeting.

At the request of the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Planning Board helped to draft an amendment to Section V.A.22.a.1.a.7, *Accessory Apartments*. The amendment was adopted at Town Meeting.

**

The Planning Board worked throughout the year on various ongoing projects such as Depot Square, landscaping at Hamilton Shopping Center and at the MBTA Station, and beginning a Geographic Information System.

The Board continued working with the Citizens Action Planning Committee (CAPC), in creating and drafting a new Master Plan. Several public meetings were held and the CAPC met regularly. The report of the CAPC is included in this Annual Report.
In conjunction with a Master Plan goal, the Board worked on drafting a new cluster zoning by-law. Tim Purinton of Mass Audubon gave a presentation on Open Space Residential Design.

The Board also worked with a group of interested public officials and residents and consultant Judi Barrett of Community Oppportunities Group, Inc., to draft a Chapter 40B Policy. Many people had input into the document, which will help to guide a Chapter 40B Permit Application, if one were filed in Hamilton. The Board of Selectmen will be asked to adopt the 40B Policy when the document is completed.

The Planning Board generally meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Public participation is welcome.

**Rick Mitchell, Chair**

## CITIZEN'S ACTION PLANNING COMMITTEE (CAPC)

The CAPC of the Planning Board spent 2003 on the development phase of the Hamilton Master Plan in concert with our consultant, Community Opportunities Group of Boston. During 2003 the subcommittees (Housing, Open Space and Natural Resources, Capital Planning and Infrastructure, and Economic Development) conducted research, met with constituencies of residents of town and relevant town boards, held public workshops, and developed policies and goals for their areas of interest. Working committee meetings were held to evaluate trade-offs, prioritize those goals, and refine them into cohesive policies. We also arranged the policies into an implementation plan for the coming years. The first draft was printed in August, and the CAPC spent most of fall evaluating and editing the maps and chapter content. By December the master plan was virtually complete, all but for its production which was expected in early 2004.

**Robin Willcox, CAPC and Hamilton Planning Board**

# ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals heard a total of Twenty Two (22) petitions, one with multiple requests, in 2003. A summary of the Board's actions are as noted below:

| | |
|---|---|
| (2) Petitions for Site Plan Review: | Approved with Conditions |
| (2) Petitions for Abbreviated Site Plan Review: | Approved with Conditions |
| (13) Petitions for Extension/Alteration of a Non-Conforming Use: | Granted with Conditions |
| (1) Petition for Extension/Alteration of a Non-Conforming Use: | Granted |
| (1) Petition for Parking Variance: | Granted with Conditions |
| (1) Petition for Special Permit for Temporary Living Area: | Granted with Conditions |
| (1) Petition to Appeal Building Inspector's Decision: | Appeal Denied |
| (1) Petition for Side Yard Setback Variance: | Withdrawn without Prejudice |
| (1) Petition for a Sign Variance: | Withdrawn without Prejudice |

The Zoning Board of appeals also wrote and adopted the following items during the year:

- The Board wrote and adopted a set of Rules and Regulations for Comprehensive Permit (40B) Filings.
- The Board proposed and the town approved a Zoning By-Law amendment to Section V.A.11.e.1.a.7 (Special Permit for Temporary Living Areas) whereby instead of petitioners coming before the Board every four years for renewal of the permit, now the Building Inspector will make a site assessment every four years to renew the permit. In this way the town will be able to verify there has been no change in use, no dimensional or design changes, and no change in occupancy prior to reissuing the permit.
- The Board wrote and adopted a procedural checklist for all zoning applications which will become a part of the permanent record for every filing. The checklist shows at a glance what is being applied for, what application materials are required, and what fees are due prior to the hearing. The checklist has a separate section for during the hearing as to who is sitting on the board, who is taking minutes, and actions taken or required.
- The Board wrote and adopted a series of checklists for different types of zoning filings which the Building Department will now provide to applicants at the start of the filing process. The checklists indicate all materials necessary for the various types of zoning hearings and is meant as an aide to the building and zoning departments. This checklist is not a part of the permanent zoning record.
- The Board voted to meet on the first Wednesday of every month beginning at 7:00 p.m. Petitions are now heard in the order that they are received prior to the hearing date.

**Beth Ganister, Chair**

# INSPECTION DEPARTMENTS

## BUILDING

| | TOTAL PERMITS ISSUED | TOTAL ESTIMATED COST | TOTAL PERMIT FEES |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***New Dwellings** | 7 | $2,377,600.00 | $19,376.00 |
| **Demolish & Rebuild Dwellings** | 4 | 860,340.00 | 7,824.00 |
| **Garages/Barns & Sheds** | 22 | 430,648.00 | 2,823.00 |
| **Decks/Porches** | 24 | 145,905.00 | 965.00 |
| **Inground & Above Pools** | 13 | 198,363.00 | 975.00 |
| **Residential Additions/Alterations** | 130 | 6,852,607.00 | 58,418.00 |
| **Non-Residential Additions/Alterations** | 11 | 3,715,380.00 | 34,142.00 |
| **Siding/Windows/New Roof/Re-Roof** | 86 | 808,331.00 | 4,680.00 |
| **Demolitions** | 5 | 21,500.00 | 160.00 |
| **Signs** | 5 | 4,230.00 | 100.00 |
| **Tents** | 3 | 13,000.00 | 150.00 |
| **Pellet/Woodstoves** | 5 | 11,400.00 | 125.00 |
| **TOTALS:** | **315** | **$15,439,304.00** | **$129,738.00** |

**Charles Brett, Inspector of Buildings**

## PLUMBING

| | |
|---|---|
| **Dwellings:** | **12** |
| **Additions/Alterations:** | **77** |
| **Barns/Garages:** | **1** |
| **Miscellaneous permits issued:** | **50** |
| **Total permits issued:** | **140** |

These permits include hot water tanks, backflow preventers, floor drains, water piping and other miscellaneous fixtures.

**William C. Thomas, Jr., Plumbing & Gas Inspector**

## PLUMBING

I herewith submit my report as Plumbing Inspector for the year ending December 31, 2003.

140 total permits issued:

| | |
|---|---|
| **Dwellings:** | **12** |
| **Additions/Alterations:** | **77** |
| **Barns/Garages:** | **1** |

**Miscellaneous permits issued:** **50**

These permits include hot water tanks, backflow preventers, floor drains, water piping and other miscellaneous fixtures.

## GAS

I herewith submit my report as Gas Inspector for the year ending December 31, 2003.

125 total permits issued:

| | |
|---|---|
| **Dwellings:** | **6** |
| **Addition/Alterations:** | **11** |
| **Barns/Garages:** | **3** |

**Miscellaneous permits issued:** **105**

These permits include fireplace inserts, ranges, heating boilers, furnaces, water heaters, dryers, direct vent heaters, pool heaters, and other miscellaneous fixtures.

I wish to express my appreciation to all I have come in contact with for their cooperation during the performance of my duties.

**William C. Thomas, Jr., Plumbing & Gas Inspector**

# HAMILTON WENHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Hamilton-Wenham Public Library completed its second full year of operation on December 17, 2003. The year 2003 was a very busy year for the Library. During that time the Library staff hosted over 680 meetings and six different art shows, taught computer skills, and circulated over 189,000 items. The public continues to enjoy the new library. We still get people with wide eyes and gaping mouths wandering in for the first time.

The secret is out: the Hamilton-Wenham Public Library has become one of the more popular places to hold a meeting in either town. We played host to over 680 meetings and programs in our four meeting rooms during the year, including such local groups as Toastmasters, the Council on Aging, and the Scrabble Players. Some of the year's highlights included programs on lichens and Lyme disease, financial planning seminars, and *Walking in This World*, a program of New Age writing. The Library was the stage for rehearsals of a production of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Coyote Rules the World*. The Library was also the regular meeting location for groups such as the Planning Board, the Hamilton Historical Society, and the Wenham Assessors.

The Hamilton-Wenham Public Library offered a number of on-going programs. In addition to regular reading groups that include Mystery Books and a Mother-Daughter group, we also offered a continuing classical music group, a series on various topics (e.g. Italy, World War I) using both fiction and nonfiction titles, and *Great Writers in Shorts*, a short story reading group.

The Hamilton-Wenham Public Library continued to offer a series of programs on computer use. The Library has a computer lab, complete with seven work stations, which offered MS Word and Excel, to be used mainly for instructional purposes. A number of programs were led by the chair of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Al Ried.

The Youth Services Department offered a variety of weekly and special programs that attracted close to 5000 participants during 2003. The year began with the dedication of the Peaceful Community Quilt in the Children's Room together with storyteller Mark Binder's presentation, "The Art of Peace," funded by a grant from New England Biolabs. The 2003 statewide summer literacy program included the wildly popular Vehicle Night with fire engines, police cars, snow plows and emergency trucks from the towns of Hamilton and Wenham. The Hamilton-Wenham Cultural Council, and the Friends of the Library, funded a concert of Caribbean music by the Pan Loco Steel Drum Band, culminating a fun-filled summer of creativity and imagination. Programs in collaboration with the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District, Cape Ann Early Intervention, Gordon College's Education Department, the Beverly Chapter of the American Red Cross, Kindermusik, and the Hamilton-Wenham Community House, provided additional opportunities for enjoyable library visits throughout the year. Our sincere thanks to the

Friends of the Hamilton-Wenham Library whose generous financial support has allowed the funding of many activities for children and their families.

The Friends of the Hamilton-Wenham Public Library were very generous again this year. Along with the Children's programs mentioned above that they funded, they continued to make available to Library patrons passes to the Children's Museum, the Isabelle Stewart Gardner Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Museum of Science, the Peabody-Essex Museum, the New England Aquarium, the Peabody Essex Museum, the Roger Williams Park Zoo, and the Wenham Museum. They also purchased significant items for the Library, including an LCD projector, two enclosed display boards, and a display cube for Children's books. They hosted two very successful book sales in the library's meeting rooms, one in March and the other in September. They also hosted a number of programs on subjects such as etiquette, Art Through the Ages, and bird watching.

The library's website: www.hwlibrary.org, continues to grow and improve thanks to the hard work and dedication of the staff.

The Library had three new staff members join its ranks: Kelly Flynn became the new Head of Reference, and Anick Valiquette and Brett DeBose became Library Assistants.

The Hamilton-Wenham Public Library hosted six art shows in the last year, expertly organized by volunteer Kim Thayer. The shows included works by local artists and schools and were displayed throughout the library. Two pianists serenaded our patrons, Brian Buckus just before Mother's Day and Peter Stewart in the days leading up to the December holidays. The Library was also the scene of a recital put on by the students of Peter Stewart.

The staff and volunteers of the Hamilton-Wenham Public Library continued exploring the new and varied uses of this great community resource. We appreciate the support of the community and especially all the volunteers that have helped to make our second year such a great success.

We look forward to the exciting opportunities our third year will bring.

**James McShane, Director**

## HAMILTON – WENHAM RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Continuing our commitment to facility improvements, the Board installed new backboards, hoops and standards at the outdoor basketball court at Patton Park, and the renovated tennis courts opened there as well, this past June. They also collaborated with the School Department to refurbish the grass at Cutler School and refinish the High School and Middle School Gymnasium floors.

The Board would like to install a Skateboard Park and is still waiting on the Boards of Selectmen to site an appropriate location. We would also like to work more closely with the School Department to renovate the High School athletic fields.

On the program side of our mission, new programs include Ballroom and Irish Step dancing, Sky Hawks summer sports clinics and Chess classes. We will also be revamping the summer program at Patton Park to be more structured and better serve the needs of today's children. We were also a major sponsor of the very successful Summer In Patton Park concert series.

Many thanks to the Youth Sports Organizations; Youth Soccer, Youth Baseball, Youth Basketball, Youth Lacrosse and Youth Football for their continued support both financial and personal.

**Lindle Willnow, Chairman**

## HAMILTON-WENHAM CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Hamilton-Wenham Cultural Council awarded slightly more than $4,000 in state funds for the year 2004 to local artists and performers in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences. The ten-member Council strives to select events that will enrich and appeal to all sectors of the community. There were 19 applications for grants this year. Whole or partial funding was given to 11, a sampling of which following:

- A Theatrical Performance by and with local students of "The Hobbitt".
- Concert performance by "Tres": North Shore Baroque Ensemble.
- Sundays in Patton Park
- Student trip to MFA.
- "Native American Heroes" performance at MRMS.
- Performance at HWRHS of "Sweet Honey in the Rock".
- Two performances at HWRL for summer programs.

Residents of Hamilton and Wenham with an interest in the arts may want to consider applying for a position on the Council. Council members serve three-year terms and are appointed by the Boards of Selectmen. There are positions open on the Board for the coming year.

**Joanne Jones and Chris Eaton, Co-Chairpersons**

I am pleased to present this annual report for the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District. As you read the school reports, you will note that the strength of our school district is in the quality of our students, our faculty, our support staff, our school leadership, and our two communities.

During the 2002-2003 school year, the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District (HWRSD) had an enrollment totaling 2252 students with 1024 in the elementary grades Kindergarten through grade five, 506 in the middle school grades six through eight, and 722 in the high school grades nine through twelve. The school district goal is to provide an engaging and comprehensive curriculum that challenges all students, raises their achievement level, and enables them to meet or exceed both Hamilton-Wenham and Massachusetts learning standards.

Teams of teachers and principals work diligently to strengthen the academic program for higher student achievement by embedding all state framework requirements within a stronger and richer District curriculum. Teachers continue to receive professional development programs, funded through local and state grants, to guide and support the successful implementation of our programs. Through the extraordinary dedication, commitment, and caring of their teachers and support staff, Hamilton and Wenham students, at all three levels, were recognized for their achievements in the academics, arts, and athletics during the 2002-2003 school year. The Elementary Honor Chorus sang at the National CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) Conference's "Light of Hope" Ceremony in Boston; our middle schools students received awards for their achievements in math team and college bowl competitions; and our high school students received awards at the local and state level in history and science, the New England Drama Festival, Boston Globe Art Awards, and the New York Choral Festival as well as numerous athletic events. The May 2003 MCAS scores reveal that Hamilton-Wenham student scores are above the state average in all four subject areas tested: reading, English, mathematics, and science and technology/engineering. Our District is doing particularly well in the areas of reading (100% passing at grade 3); English (average of 97% passing at grades 4, 7 and 10), mathematics (average 94% passing at grades 4, 6, 8, and 10) and science (98% passing at grades 5 and 8). Every member of the Class of 2003 passed both the English and math sections of the MCAS.

In September 2003, the District hired Lisa Wood for the position of Development Consultant. Ms. Wood will work with our district leadership team to develop partnerships with corporations, foundations, and private donors to provide resources beyond the district budget. Given the FY 04 budget situation, the Hamilton-Wenham Education Fund very generously provided the entire salary for the position rather than sharing the salary with the District as originally agreed.

Despite the achievements of our students and teachers, the 2002-2003 school year was a difficult year for the District due to the economic situation of the Commonwealth. The fiscal year saw a decrease in the amount of financial resources available to our District and to the Towns of Hamilton and Wenham. The ramifications of the 2003 budget crisis were far-reaching and our faculty, staff, administrators, parents, and community members keenly felt the effects. These concerns are especially acute now that the Commonwealth's economy has not improved dramatically and are very much a part of the public discussion that now surrounds the FY 05 budget.

The FY 04 budget that I recommended and that the School Committee supported would have just barely funded the educational needs of Hamilton and Wenham's students. The District faced a gap of nearly *$3.5 million* between a level program budget and anticipated revenues for FY 04; *this amount was never even requested.* Knowing the economic climate in which we were working, both locally and at the state level, we developed the FY 04 budget with a realistic view of what might be possible. The result was a budget that would neither contain any new programs nor replace positions and programs eliminated in FY 02. The proposed budget did not even cover the loss in state aid ($924,500) and the increase in mandated special education costs ($436,193) for the 2003-2004 school year.

Two Proposition 2 ½ override campaigns were brought to the citizens and in both instances, the override votes passed in Wenham and did not pass in Hamilton. Since the District did not have an approved FY 04 budget on July 1, 2003, the District had to hold an unprecedented and historic District -Wide Meeting on August 5, 2003. At that meeting, the School Committee presented a "compromise" total gross budget for $19,115,114 which included the additional appropriation by the Member Towns of $403,532 more that previously approved by these Member Towns in Article Two of the Town Meetings held in May, 2003. The actual appropriations by the towns for the FY 04 school budget were $281,988 for the Town of Hamilton and $121,544 for the Town of Wenham. The assembly of citizens passed the FY 04 budget with a vote of 1,349 yes votes to 351 no votes.

After the District-Wide Meeting, support for our school district's situation grew amongst concerned citizens. Kimberley Jaeger, Jeanne Maurand, and Judene Shelley spearheaded a community fundraising group, Support Our Schools (SOS). In three short weeks the SOS group raised approximately $312,000 in private funding for the schools. The Hamilton-Wenham Education Fund, Pro Musica II, the HWRHS Alliance for Athletic and Extracurricular Programs, the Hamilton-Wenham Youth Soccer Association, and many donors who wish to remain anonymous, donated an additional $40,000. The positions and programs the District restored with the private funds included: music, art, and physical education at the elementary level; band, chorus, a partial foreign language program, and part-time librarian at the middle school level; and a part-time adjustment counselor and a part-time band teacher at the high school. These positions are funded for the 2003-2004 school year only; they are not included in the current FY 04 operating budget. The losses we suffered as a District seriously impacted the educational programs for our students. Even with the generous private funding, the district had to lay off 12% of its staff. The losses impacted the working conditions for the remaining teachers and employees. As a result, it was necessary to impact bargain a one-year side agreement for the teachers' contract since the current agreement could not be honored as originally negotiated. It should be noted that the side agreement was reached without additional costs to the District even though the costs would have been approximately $245,000 for lost preparation time and additional classroom teaching time for teachers.

No report of this kind would be complete without taking the opportunity to thank the many people who have been so supportive of our schools this past year. On behalf of the students, faculty, administration, and School Committee, I thank the Friends of the Buker, Cutler, Winthrop, Miles River, and High Schools, the Special Education Parent Advisory Board, the Support Our Schools fundraising group, the HW Education Fund, the HW Rotary Club, the HWRHS Sports and Activities Alliance, Pro Musica II, the HW Youth Soccer Association, and the many generous parents and residents who have given their time and money to support our schools. I am also grateful to our faculty, staff, principals, assistant principals, and the District Leadership Team for their devotion to the children and youth of Hamilton and Wenham. Finally, we are most appreciative to the townspeople of Hamilton and Wenham and the Hamilton and Wenham Boards of Selectmen and Finance Committees who have seen us through difficult times and who continue to support our efforts to make the Hamilton-Wenham Schools the very best they can be. The August 5th District-Wide Meeting personified the values of cooperation and collaboration that embody our communities. The support the District received during that meeting exemplified that spirit of cooperation and collaboration. As your Superintendent, I am most appreciative of the time and expertise each and everyone gave to support us and I will remember those contributions for a long time to come.

In closing, our initiatives continue to advance the coherence and quality of our educational program. There are many goals yet to realize which are dependent upon high levels of budget funding. Our professional staff must have the resources if we are to continue to be competitive with similar school districts in developing, providing, and maintaining a high quality educational program for all of our students in the Hamilton-Wenham Regional Schools.

Dr. Marinel D. McGrath
Superintendent of Schools

## Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District - Special Education

*Deborah Frontierro, Director of Special Education*

The Special Education Department of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District provides a wide range of programs for students with disabilities, ages 3 to 22. Currently, 330 students in the district (14.7% of the general population) are identified as needing special education services. Special education is a required program for all school districts under both federal law (Individuals with Disabilities Act- IDEA) and state law (chapter 766). Eligibility for Special Education services is determined by a team of teachers, parents and other professionals. It is based upon the presence of a diagnosed disability, the inability to make effective progress in the general curriculum due to the disability, and the need for specially designed instruction. Evaluation teams, comprised of trained professionals, are present in each school in the district. They use the latest diagnostic instruments available to assess students so that teams can develop programs that address the individual students' needs.

The Integrated Preschool serves student from ages 3 to 5. Teachers, teaching assistants, monitors and therapists work together to provide services to students in an integrated model. In this setting, preschoolers learn and play together with their non-disabled peers. As students with disabilities become school age, this inclusive and integrated model continues, with most special education students receiving services within the regular classroom. Professional special educators, trained paraprofessionals and therapists support our classroom teachers in meeting the needs of students with learning disabilities, health and sensory disabilities, communication disorders, neurological impairments, cognitive deficits and emotional and behavioral difficulties. The A.S.P.I.R.E. program serves our most disabled students and includes academics and life skill instruction both in the school and in the community.

The Special Education Department is evaluated annually on a three-year rotation between elementary, middle school and high school programs. These evaluations are required by law of all public schools as a means of ensuring quality programs for students with disabilities. In addition, the Department of Education conducts a full coordinated Program Review every five to six years, with a mid-cycle review on one of the years in between. The mid-cycle review for Hamilton-Wenham took place during December 2003. The Department is proud of its' record of service within the district, and realizes that the high quality teaching practices of classroom teachers and the strong district curriculum have set the climate of educational excellence that allow students with disabilities to succeed. The support of the school committee, the superintendent, school administrators, families and townspeople has been essential in meeting the needs of all learners in the district.

## Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District - Curriculum and Instruction

*Maryellen Duffy Ed.D. Director of Curriculum and Instruction*

In January 2003, the position of the Director of Curriculum and Instruction for the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District was reinstated. In conjunction with the K-12 Professional Development Committee and the Leadership Team, the Director of Curriculum and Instruction focused the district's curriculum and professional development work to support the district's goals.

In spring 2003, the Fine Arts Curriculum Guide was completed and presented to the staff. Unfortunately due to budget cuts, the curriculum has not been implemented as written. The K-5 English/Language Arts is researching materials and making recommendation for the purchase of materials to support the learning standards in the areas of grammar and mechanics and providing professional development to support implementation of the curriculum. Because of the budget constraints and the subsequent reduction of staff, curriculum offerings have decreased in the areas of Health Science, the Arts, World Language and Technology Education at the middle and high school levels. The world language and library programs at the elementary schools were eliminated. The number of elective courses and sections in all content areas at the high school was also reduced.

Fortunately, state and federal grants have allowed us to continue offering quality professional development opportunities and support to our teachers. The Hamilton- Wenham School District has been able to offer its staff numerous grant-funded professional development opportunities which included after school and summer courses for The Skillful Teacher, the Responsive Classroom, Math Trailblazers, Curriculum Mapping, and Guided Reading. The Beginning Teacher Orientation, Induction and Mentoring Program and the curriculum coach positions were also funded through grants. Additionally, our staff is involved in sixty-six (66) special project professional development opportunities during the Wednesday early release program.

During the 2003-2004 school year the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District was awarded nine (9) state, federal, and professional development grants (seven entitlement and two competitive) totaling in the aggregate of $250,195. These grants were targeted for MCAS remediation, reading intervention, professional development, curriculum support, and curriculum development.

MCAS scores reveal that Hamilton-Wenham student scores are above the state average in all five subject areas tested: reading, English language arts, mathematics, and science and technology/engineering. Our school district is doing particularly well in the areas of reading (100% passing at grade 3); English (average of 97% passing at grades 4, 7 and 10), mathematics (average 94% passing at grades 4, 6, 8, and 10) and science (98% passing at grades 5 and 8).

The Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District recognizes that student achievement, curriculum and professional development are interrelated and will continue to pursue and secure opportunities to support these connections.

## THE BUKER SCHOOL
*Gillian S. Hahn, Principal*

2003 marked the 50th Anniversary year for Buker School. Built in 1953 to accommodate the increasing numbers of students in Wenham, Buker School has been a landmark ever since. To celebrate the school's half century the Buker School community installed a flagpole in front of our handsome building. Families, teachers, and local donors all contributed generously to enable this project come to fruition. Thanks to the leadership of Linda Penniman, a teacher and former student at Buker school, students were treated to stories and pictorial displays about the construction of the school building and life for students and teachers in the early days of the mid 1950's and 60's. The Essex County Garden Club funded a grant to create a garden around the flagpole. Two granite benches donated by two Buker families. Thanks to the generosity of The Friends of Buker School, John Acciavatti and Jonathan Hunt our beautiful cupola has been restored.

On September 2, 2003, the Buker School welcomed 268 students from preschool through grade five along with three new teachers, Jason Cacciapuoti, Amy Pasquarello, and Carol Gambino.

As a result of the budget cuts the library and world language instructional programs were eliminated and our art, music and physical education programs were seriously impacted. The principal and secretarial positions were also reduced. Our school now relies on an army of volunteers who manage the book circulation in the library, help with reading in the classrooms, do clerical work, and other vital functions once filled by paid employees. Pro-Musica II has again funded our Elementary Honor Chorus. We are grateful for the generosity and dedication of everyone who work so hard to provide a strong education for the students from Hamilton and Wenham.

Wednesday afternoon professional development time continues to be used to ensure a cohesive and effective curriculum aligned with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. This year our focus has been on implementing Guided Reading and Responsive Classroom strategies as well as continued work developing math, writing and language arts instruction. Funding for this professional development work was made possible through generosity of the Hamilton Education Fund.

The Friends of Buker School, led by Laney Makin along and a dedicated board of parent volunteers, continue to support the students and teachers at Buker School in so many ways. As in past years the Friends of Buker provide the funds for the Cultural Enrichment programs that enrich the general curriculum. This year fundraising efforts led to generous donations to the technology, math and reading programs as well as a poetry and dance residency.

Thank you to all the staff, children, families, in the Hamilton and the Wenham Community for your continued support of Buker School, and for your dedication and generosity in helping our talented students reach their potential.

## The Cutler School
*Susan L. Cooke, Principal*

2003 was a challenging, productive, exciting, and interesting year for Cutler School's students, staff, and families as we focused on our children's need to be in a safe, nurturing and challenging educational environment. Cutler School has 17 classrooms with an average class size of 21 students in grades 1-5 and 18 students in each kindergarten. Our largest class has 24 students; our smallest class, a kindergarten, has 18 students.

There were no additions to the elementary staff at Cutler School. In fact, due to reduced funding, we were forced to eliminate the entire library and world language programs in our elementary schools. We also reduced the amount of art, physical education and music instruction our students receive. Parents and community members raised monies to reinstate very limited additional art, music, and physical education classes with private funding. When classroom teaching positions were appropriated late in August, due to a historic joint town meeting, we were able to reinstate five classroom teaching positions at Cutler School. All five teachers are new to Cutler. They replaced staff who secured other positions outside the District, due to budget cuts in June. Our new teachers are: Jessica Zeigler, Hope Wallace, Carey Leathers, Joshua Evans, and Carla Santoro.

The Friends of Cutler, led by Tracey Gould and a dedicated board of volunteers, continues to provide incredible financial assistance and many volunteer hours of tangible support. Through their efforts, we were able to purchase an additional ten new laptops computers to enhance our traveling Tech Lab concept. They have also helped us to purchase new books for the classroom libraries, and software for our classes. The Friends of Cutler also funded all the cultural enrichment programs for 2003-2004. These learning experiences provide a broader understanding of the sciences and arts for all our students.

The Cutler School Council advised me on the goals, objectives and strategies we employed to reach the goal of creating an engaging and exciting learning environment for our students. School Council members were Beth Loeper, Mary Green, Mary Curran, Sue Herlihy, Dede Johnson, and Susie Haws. I applaud and appreciate the support and guidance of the members of the School Council, the leadership of our Friends of Cutler, Superintendent Dr. Marinel McGrath and our School Committee for their leadership and unfailing advocacy of our children.

Our students are the most interesting and energetic learners who make the most of their time at Cutler. They work hard, learn how to learn, develop great work habits, and treat each other and their teachers with kindness and respect. We are quite proud of our young citizens. Please visit us at Cutler and meet them!

## The Winthrop School
*Martha D. Cesarz, Principal*

There are 360 students enrolled at the Winthrop School which is a decrease in enrollment due to fewer children entering kindergarten. Winthrop's school theme, "Experiencing and Exploring at the Winthrop School", honors the anniversary of Lewis and Clark and supports the goal of engaging children in meaningful, challenging experiences. Children learned about museums through a slide presentation of artwork at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Ma, developed by art teacher Ms. Sheila Boss-Concannon and an exploration of the Peabody Essex Museum. Upon their return from the museum, the students created the "Winthrop School Museum" with every classroom creating an exhibit. The community was invited to tour the "Winthrop School Museum" and those who came, discovered the wonderful environment in which children learn at the Winthrop School.

Staff changes at Winthrop School were primarily the result of last year's budget cuts. Specialists' positions were reduced to part time resulting in shorter classes of art, music, and physical education for students. The elementary library instruction program was eliminated but through the efforts of volunteers, children are able to check out books. I extend a very special thank you to Heidi Chisholm and Deidre McManus who spend endless hours organizing the library book circulation. Several new teachers were hired or transferred to different grade levels due to retirements, resignations, or leaves of absence. The staff changes include Catherine Rose, grade two; Liz Crowley, grade two; Heidi Caccivio, grade three; Doreen Mazzye, grade four; and Brigid O'Donnell, grade four. New teachers who joined the staff this year are: Jeff Brown, grade four, Alicia Kerrigan, grade five, and Jen Sperry, a part-time SPED teacher. Carol Hedges, grade four, is on a leave of absence for the year. Winthrop School also welcomed a new Head Custodian, Matthew Bucklin in October 2003.

Winthrop continues its curriculum focus in math and writing. Many eachers attended classes during the summer on the Trailblazers math program, guided reading instruction, and "Responsive Classroom". Responsive Classroom is based on the philosophy that how children learn is as important as what they learn. Teachers learned strategies which will help children take more responsibility for their learning and their personal interactions. We extend a huge thanks to the Hamilton-Wenham Education Fund for providing a grant to fund professional development this year.

Looking back at this year, I will never forget the overwhelming support of Winthrop parents at the special district meeting in August and throughout the year. This year parents are also volunteering to help with office work since our secretary's position was reduced due to budget cuts. Deb Brown and Tina Pendeleton head the Friends of Winthrop and Tish Rodde coordinated a successful Holiday Boutique on the snowiest day in December! We thank the many volunteers who worked on the Holiday Boutique on that snowy Saturday.

Even with the stress of budget cuts and not knowing if they had positions, Winthrop teachers enthusiastically provided the very best instruction for the children who were eager to learn each day. Winthrop School is a special place where children take responsibility for their learning, take risks, and know that their "job" is to do the best they can every day. We thank everyone who is involved in making the Winthrop School the very special place that it is. Winthrop School thanks the community for its continued support.

## Miles River Middle School
*Janice C. DeSantis, Principal*

During 2003, the Miles River Middle School community experienced a difficult financial school year. Due to the poor economy of Massachusetts and the failure of two overrides, programs were eliminated and many teachers were not rehired. An increase in class size, elimination of programs such as world language, technology education, library, band, chorus, and reductions in art, general music, and physical education programs were devastating. In addition, there were reductions in support staff for the computer program and in secretarial and custodial positions. Furthermore, after school co-curricular activities were eliminated and funding was curtailed for supplies, textbooks, maintenance, and professional development.

Support for our school district's difficult situation grew amongst concerned citizens. Citizens raised funds to donate to the District. Through privatization efforts enough money was raised in August to fund the band, chorus, and a portion of the world language program and by November a part-time librarian was funded. These positions were funded for one year only and are not included in the current operating budget. The Friends of Miles River Middle School also funded the entire after school activities program.

In the midst of these troubling financial times, our teachers and students continued to focus on learning. The students performed well on the State's MCAS exam and our College Bowl students ranked first place in Essex County. Mr. Erick Fecke, band director, began our first jazz band which was a stunning success. Our seventh grade math students' excellent performance tripled the number of students qualified to enroll in the advanced algebra course in grade eight.

For the 2003-04 school year, our special education model was reorganized. The number of teaching assistants was reduced and more special education teachers were hired. Money is saved with this new model, and students receive direct services from their teacher. This new model is very effective and supports a highly inclusive approach.

The Hamilton Wenham Education Fund awarded the Middle School a grant to purchase some needed technology. Other state grants funded the continuation of our mentor program for novice teachers and provided limited funding for professional development. The Friends of Miles River purchased printers and technology to update our aging infrastructure and they funded cultural assemblies, transportation for field trips, and some materials for our core subject areas.

Appreciation is extended to everyone who raised funds to support our children's education.

## Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School
*Christopher J. Rice, Principal*

Our High School community experienced a year of great achievements and unprecedented challenges. Students achieved daily in the academic arena and many extended their scholastic pursuits to regional, state and national levels through their participation in Science Fair, History Fair, Advanced Placement testing, Scholastic Aptitude Testing, MCAS, speech contests, writing contests, and other academically focused activities.

I frequently receive letters from individuals and organizations complimenting our students and acknowledging volunteer work they have done. Despite their heavy commitments at school, hundreds of our students participate in Boys Scouts, Girls Scouts, church groups, and volunteer at hospitals or nursing homes.

I cannot remember a calendar year where our theater program produced three such widely complimented masterpieces in the same year. "World without Memory", the award winning One Act play and last spring's musical "Into the Woods" were appreciated by thousands of audience members. This fall's musical, "The Gondoliers", was also well received. Our Concert Choir traveled to New York City in March to participate in the World Projects choral festival at Lincoln Center. Although competing against mostly audition-based ensembles, our choir was awarded a gold medal for their performance and our Concert and Jazz Bands impressed their audiences wherever they played.

Our athletic teams competed successfully in all three seasons including championships won in football, swimming, and baseball. Several individual athletes and coaches were recognized as Players or Coaches of the Year. I was most pleased with the continued high participation rates of our student body; nearly 300 students participated in fall athletics and over 200 students participated in both the winter and spring seasons. The co-curricular programs were also successful as over 200 students participated and some, such as Mock Trial and College Bowl, experienced "best-ever" seasons.

The Class of 2003 culminated their high school careers last June by enjoying a successful, albeit exhausting, senior week. Throughout scholarship night, the Awards Assembly, the Candlelight Ceremony, the Senior Farewell, the Senior Prom and Graduation, I was impressed by the graduates' spirit and enthusiasm. They were a graduating class that cannot easily be characterized as a whole, but they were a collection of unique and successful individuals who will be missed at the Regional.

Two additional individuals "graduating" at the end of last school year were Mr. Norm Zaniboni and Mr. Paul Maltais, who both retired from The Regional in June 2003. They have been outstanding educators who have had a lasting effect on the lives of thousands of Regional students. I wish to thank them for their years of service and wish them good luck in their future endeavors.

# GRADE EIGHT GRADUATES
# FROM MILES RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Taylor Adamik
Benjamin Ahearn
Jennifer Andrake
Ryan Anthony
Christina Asadorian
Allison Ashley
Stephen Bachand-Amirault
Elizabeth Barth
David Begonis
Sophie Bellenis
Jennifer Benner
Matthew Bonventre
Christopher Brand
John Brotchie
Amanda Brown
Ryan Buckley
Christie Butler
Michelle Bynam
Richard Campana, III
William Campbell
Briana Cantore
John Carey
Grainne Carlin
Greg Cohan
Christy Colyer
Ashley Corbin
Sean Cournoyer
Samuel Crossan
Samantha Curr
Andrew Curran
Joseph Curran
Patrick Dalton
Elliot Davis
Rachel Day
Pamela Decatur
Samuel DeHority
Rebecca Der
Marlon DiChiara
Taylor Doherty
Kyler Dolan
Teagan Dolan
Andrew Dooley
Jessica Doonan
Michael Drinkwater
Colleen Driscoll
Charles Duval, Jr.
Domenico Eramo
Jamie Erdman
Anna Evetts
Jessica Figurido
Elizabeth Fisher
Heather Fontaine
Jennifer Galvin
Donald Ganey, Jr.
Elizabeth Georges
Emily Greeke
Caroline Ham
Anthony Harris
Jesse Henderson
Suzanne Henkels
Arriel Henry
Alexander Hoffman
Kevin Howard
Meryl Hulse
Stephen Ikalainen
Arthur Jackson
Gregory Jeffery
Abigail Johnson
Kayla Jones
Taylor Jones
Kelsey Keith
Devin Keller
Grace Kerr
Samuel Kielty
Danielle Kiely
Kathryn Kilgore
David King
Samantha Kinsman
Leigh Kroeker
Elyse Lampe
Michael Landry
David Lear
Hannah Lebel
Keith LeDuc
Charlotte LeTourneau
Mark Liporto
Benjamin Lithgow
Kelley Littlefield
Catherine Lucy
Jefferson MacDonald
Lisa MacGregor
Jamie Malatzky
Andrew Marques
Michelle Martin
John Matook
Ryan McGlynn
Hannah McGowan
Dale McGrath
Alexa McNally
William McNamara
Michael Melanson
Sara Millimet
Roseannah MillsGrassin
Giles Moffett
Kellyann Moniz
Lauren Morse
Roger Moulton, III
Peter Mugford, Jr.
Dylan Murphy
Leigh Nawoichik
Margaret O'Neill
Brittany Parr
Shay Parsons
Taylor Patten
Robert Pavenski
Taylor Perkins
Elena Petkolicheva
Sophia Plitt
Christina Pohas
Charlotte Press
Marissa Provenza
Chelsea Putur
John Quezada
Vanessa Richards
Isaias Rivera
Catherine Robinson
Tucker Roundy
William Safrin
Edward Sandell
Margaret Sanders
Charlotte Sandler
Andrew Sargent
Daniel Sargent
Jenaka Sawall
Abigail Sawyer
John Scarpa
Arielle Scoglio
Jay Scuteri
Benjamin Seidman
Kevin Serafino
Sheila Serafino
Laura Shaktman
Harrison Smith
Joanna Smith
Kerri Smith
Nicholas Smith
Perry Smith
Timothy Snow
Sarah Spearing
Kathleen Splaine
Douglas Stone
Connor Sullivan
Jenna Swartz
Matthew Sweeney
Michael Teal
Daron Thayer
John Townsend
Amy Truschel
Myriah Tucker
James Turner, III
Ariel Twomey
Joseph Vanni
John Volker
Abigail Walker
Jeffrey Walsh
Stephanie Weaver
Ian Whear
Deirdre Winrow
Julie Woods
Thomas Zagorski
Daniel Zisson

# HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
# CLASS OF 2003 GRADUATES

Jamie Cunningham Abram
Heather Elizabeth Arnold
Lindsay Brooke Avery
David Glover Babcock
Kelly Lynn Baglioni
Elizabeth Margaret Ball
CourtneyElizabethBarsanti
Robert Salem Bencal
Matthew James Berry
Adam Joseph Bial
Meredith Bird
Alex Wesley Bishop
Alexi Kristin Bonnette
Haley Sara Bridger
Claire Judge Brislin
Charlotte Maureen Brown
Philip Moore Brown
Matthew Allen Brunet
Justin Matthew Bullis
Caitlin Maura Burke
Jonah Shaw Butler
Joanna Marie Bybee
Timothy John Carney
Jaime Andres Castro
Christin Marie Cataldi
Jessica Knox Cavanaugh
Michael Wesley Chadder
Nicholas James Chapman
Elizabeth Rowe Collett
Michaela Ruth Collins
Jeffrey Andrew Cook
Allison Marie Coughlin
Lauren Christine DeAngelis
Caitlin Suzanne DeJong
Jennifer Davis Doane
Emily Stevens Dodge
Kallie Ann Doty
Kelly Elizabeth Dowley
Adam Christopher Doyle
Andrea Lynne Dupee
Ruth Janet Dykstra
Gwynne Ellen Everatt
Jonathan Mark Fairbrother
William Samuel Faust
Christopher Frank Filtranti
Matthew John Filtranti
Ryan Wallace Fleming
Peter Robert Flint
John Parker Flynn
Melissa Joy Foley
Tiffany Alice Funchion
Theresa Marie Gannett
Annie Rebekah Gardner
Carrie Elizabeth Gray
Christopher Paul Greeke
David Lawrence Griffin
Wayne Farrin Grove
Corey William Gwinn
Colleen Janet Harrison
Kathryn Ann Hatfield
Ashley Bowditch Hawkins
Christopher Grant Henry
Gary Lee Hirthler
Sarah Elizabeth Howard
Ashley Emma Hoyle
Emily Ann Hursty
Thomas John Irwin
Jessalyn Lee Janes
Christopher Lavalle Jansky
Landis Motley Jaques
Jamie Kathleen Johnson
Emma Cothi Jones
Kaitlin Leigh Jones
Carissa Lee Jope
Andrew Leymon Ketcham
Teresa Renee King
Zachary Marc Knope
Kristin Elizabeth Knopf
Kevin Robert Krachman
Lauren Reed Kroesser
Kira Marie Landrebe
Aron Alexander Moscow Leaman
Brianna Louise Lee
Steven Holbrook MacGregor
Shivani Madan
Nora Dianne Maginn
Samuel Robert Magro
Tana Marie Mahar
Emily Sennett Maher
Jennifer Ruth Mattern
Ryan Keniston McBain
Kaitlin Jane McCarthy
Meghan Suzanne McCormack
Jason William McGrath
Brett Kidder Meader
Carolyn Doyle Moulton
Brennan David Murphy
Vincent Joseph Murphy
Andrea Lynne Myers
Lindsay Eliza Nance
Ian Charles Naugler
Kathryn Marie Odian
Suzanna Elizabeth Ollove
Andre Beau Painchaud
Michael Frank Papacostas
Erin Nicole Parsons
Charles Townsend Peabody
Elizabeth Anne Pearson
Lauren Leghorn Peltz
Benjamin Walter Perkins
Ann Marie Pietrantonio
Benjamin Carr Pitman
Michelle Elizabeth Poole
Ashley Ann Potter
Bethany Gale Power
Joanna Elizabeth Read
Andrea Nicole Richards
Vivian Arelis Rivera
Nicholas William Rose
Isaac Benjamin Ross
Caitlin Julie Russell
Crystalyn April Russell
Leslie Dian Rutherford
Francis William Sargent, III
Ani Marielle Sarkisian
Benjamin Arthur Sawyer
Ryan Francis Schuster
Jay Walter Seiter
Abigail Welch Severance
Katie Lynn Smith
Marc Charles Smith
Christopher Anthony Sousa
Scott Robert Spencer
James Nicholas Stavros
Natalie Elaine Stehfest
Gia Marie Stelline
Meredith Anne Stringer
Douglas Michael Sullivan
Elyse Meehan Sullivan
Mia Elizabeth Swenson
Nicole Marie Tardiff
Alexander Bernick Taylor
Abby Elizabeth Teel
Colleen Marie Thomas
Noah Webster Tomaiolo
David Mark Townsend
Christyna Annette Tucker
Gary Connelly Uhring
Laura Winter Unsworth
William Edward Weagle
Christina Elizabeth Weaver
John Daniel Whalen
Timothy Shawn Whippen
Marissa Diane Wise
Nicole Marie Wonson
Amy Sarah Woodbury
Lori Ann Zaniboni

## Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District

## Reserve Fund History

**Expenditure of Reserve Funds**

| Fiscal Year | Start of FY | Percent of Gross Budget |
|---|---|---|
| **95** | $343,563 | 4.65% |
| **96** | $528,896 | 3.51% |
| **97** | $418,141 | 2.79% |
| **98** | $352,422 | 2.79% |
| **99** | $372,577 | 3.51% |
| **00** | $491,220 | 3.30% |
| **01** | $523,951 | 1.88% |
| **02** | $315,384 | 2.40% |
| **03** | $448,074 | 3.78% |
| **04** | $732,396 | 1.86% |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Current Balance | 732,396 | |
| less FY04 Use of Reserves | 120,468 | |
| plus est. FY04 Unexpended | 100,000 | |
| FY05 Reserves Usage/Encumbered Expenses: | | |
| Reserve Fund Offset | 105,000 | |
| Beede Waste Site | 42,000 | |
| WWTP Upgrade | 315,321 | |
| Sub-Total | 462,321 | |
| Estimated FY05 Year-End Balance | 249,607 | 1.31% |
| Auditor's Minimum Recommendation | | 3.00% |

**Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District**
**FY05 School Committee Budget**
**APPROVED BUDGET**
**March 31, 2004**

| Cutler | 03-04 Bud. | Change | % Chng | 04-05 Bud. | Change | % Chng |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Admin. Salaries/Expenses | $119,950 | $396 | 0.3% | $120,825 | $876 | 0.73% |
| Instructional Salaries | $1,166,405 | $23,610 | 2.1% | $1,212,339 | $45,935 | 3.94% |
| Instructional Expenses | $52,357 | $9,007 | 20.8% | $55,193 | $2,837 | 5.42% |
| Utilities | $65,200 | $12,210 | 23.0% | $64,300 | -$900 | -1.38% |
| Maintenance | $49,350 | $1,525 | 3.2% | $64,700 | $15,350 | 31.10% |
| Custodial Salaries | $69,354 | $26,779 | 62.9% | $71,350 | $1,996 | 2.88% |
| Athletics, Xtracurric. & Extend. Respon. | $3,000 | $1,600 | 114.3% | $3,483 | $483 | 16.10% |
| Health Services | $22,154 | -$7,601 | -25.5% | $21,704 | -$450 | -2.03% |
| Other Expenses | | $0 | | $36,778 | $36,778 | |
| Subtotal | $1,547,769 | $67,525 | 4.56% | $1,650,672 | $102,904 | 6.65% |

| Winthrop | 03-04 Bud. | Change | % Chng | 04-05 Bud. | Change | % Chng |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Admin. Salaries/Expenses | $120,885 | $325 | 0.3% | $122,631 | $1,747 | 1.44% |
| Instructional Salaries | $1,153,435 | -$7,219 | -0.6% | $1,273,515 | $120,081 | 10.41% |
| Instructional Expenses | $59,500 | -$1,572 | -2.6% | $51,911 | -$7,589 | -12.75% |
| Utilities | $83,500 | $4,352 | 5.5% | $94,000 | $10,500 | 12.57% |
| Maintenance | $46,700 | $106 | 0.2% | $59,687 | $12,987 | 27.81% |
| Custodial Salaries | $69,354 | -$4,740 | -6.4% | $71,350 | $1,996 | 2.88% |
| Athletics, Xtracurric. & Extend. Respon. | $3,000 | $1,600 | 114.3% | $3,483 | $483 | 16.10% |
| Health Services | $40,757 | $1,499 | 3.8% | $22,554 | -$18,203 | -44.66% |
| Other Expenses | | $0 | | $39,000 | $39,000 | |
| Subtotal | $1,577,130 | -$5,649 | -0.36% | $1,738,131 | $161,002 | 10.21% |

| Buker | 03-04 Bud. | Change | % Chng | 04-05 Bud. | Change | % Chng |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Admin. Offices' Salaries | $108,976 | -$8,855 | -7.5% | $115,781 | $6,806 | 6.24% |
| Instructional Salaries | $716,605 | -$124,885 | -14.8% | $801,254 | $84,650 | 11.81% |
| Instructional Expenses | $35,050 | $6,537 | 22.9% | $36,935 | $1,886 | 5.38% |
| Utilities | $82,900 | $12,575 | 17.9% | $74,500 | -$8,400 | -10.13% |
| Maintenance | $41,900 | $8,888 | 26.9% | $53,300 | $11,400 | 27.21% |
| Custodial Salaries | $69,304 | $2,630 | 3.9% | $73,485 | $4,181 | 6.03% |
| Athletics, Xtracurric. & Extend. Respon. | $3,000 | $1,600 | 114.3% | $3,483 | $483 | 16.10% |
| Health Services | $22,529 | -$6,846 | -23.3% | $21,779 | -$750 | -3.33% |
| Other Expenses | | $0 | | $31,407 | $31,407 | |
| Subtotal | $1,080,263 | -$108,356 | -9.12% | $1,211,924 | $131,662 | 12.19% |

Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District
FY05 School Committee Budget
APPROVED BUDGET
March 31, 2004

| Middle School | 03-04 Bud. | Change | % Chng | 04-05 Bud. | Change | % Chng |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Admin. Salaries/Expenses | $223,826 | $2,327 | 1.1% | $226,026 | $2,201 | 0.98% |
| Instructional Salaries | $1,693,975 | -$379,400 | -18.3% | $1,966,891 | $272,917 | 16.11% |
| Instructional Expenses | $108,646 | $26,550 | 32.3% | $95,144 | -$13,502 | -12.43% |
| Utilities | $120,500 | $2,845 | 2.4% | $130,000 | $9,500 | 7.88% |
| Maintenance | $58,350 | $9,119 | 18.5% | $94,702 | $36,352 | 62.30% |
| Custodial Salaries | $104,437 | -$9,815 | -8.6% | $121,751 | $17,314 | 16.58% |
| Athletics, Xtracurric. & Extend. Respon. | $24,429 | $17,212 | 238.5% | $18,622 | -$5,807 | -23.77% |
| Health Services | $40,463 | $3,501 | 9.5% | $40,492 | $29 | 0.07% |
| Other Expenses | | $0 | | $63,974 | $63,974 | |
| Subtotal | $2,374,625 | -$327,662 | -12.13% | $2,757,602 | $382,978 | 16.13% |

| High School | 03-04 Bud. | Change | % Chng | 04-05 Bud. | Change | % Chng |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Admin. Salaries/Expenses | $283,947 | -$23,660 | -7.7% | $303,502 | $19,556 | 6.89% |
| Instructional Salaries | $3,205,711 | -$218,722 | -6.4% | $3,451,015 | $245,305 | 7.65% |
| Instructional Expenses | $142,503 | $10,922 | 8.3% | $141,737 | -$766 | -0.54% |
| Utilities | $188,000 | $10,233 | 5.8% | $197,000 | $9,000 | 4.79% |
| Maintenance | $79,900 | $15,675 | 24.4% | $92,870 | $12,970 | 16.23% |
| Custodial Salaries | $151,706 | -$40,624 | -21.1% | $156,153 | $4,447 | 2.93% |
| Athletics, Xtracurric. & Extend. Respon. | $297,633 | $47,265 | 18.9% | $190,244 | -$107,389 | -36.08% |
| Health Services | $42,552 | $2,167 | 5.4% | $42,652 | $100 | 0.24% |
| Other Expenses | | $0 | | $120,084 | $120,084 | |
| Subtotal | $4,391,951 | -$196,744 | -4.29% | $4,695,257 | $303,307 | 6.91% |

| Special Education | 03-04 Bud. | Change | % Chng | 04-05 Bud. | Change | % Chng |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Admin. Salaries/Expenses | $143,996 | $2,981 | 2.11% | $142,333 | -$1,663 | -1.15% |
| Instructional Salaries | $2,158,647 | $197,084 | 10.05% | $2,271,771 | $113,125 | 5.24% |
| Instructional Expenses | $233,935 | -$2,670 | -1.13% | $239,350 | $5,416 | 2.31% |
| Utilities | $22,280 | $2,250 | 11.23% | $21,280 | -$1,000 | -4.49% |
| Transportation | $331,964 | $2,936 | 0.89% | $290,511 | -$41,453 | -12.49% |
| Out-of-District Tuition | $981,568 | $152,963 | 18.46% | $1,030,842 | $49,274 | 5.02% |
| Other Expenses | | $0 | | $48,313 | $48,313 | |
| Subtotal | $3,872,389 | $355,544 | 10.11% | $4,044,400 | $172,012 | 4.44% |

| Central Offices | 03-04 Bud. | Change | % Chng | 04-05 Bud. | Change | % Chng |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Admin. Salaries/Expenses | $560,947 | $8,949 | 1.62% | $608,388 | $47,442 | 8.46% |
| Instructional Salaries | $270,713 | -$63,787 | -19.07% | $311,513 | $40,800 | 15.07% |
| Custodial Salaries | $28,509 | -$10,771 | -27.42% | $32,340 | $3,831 | 13.44% |
| Utilities | $30,000 | $20,534 | 216.92% | $29,000 | -$1,000 | -3.33% |
| Health Services | $1,500 | $1,500 | #DIV/0! | $1,500 | $0 | 0.00% |
| Insurance/Pension/Taxes | $2,306,407 | $522,352 | 29.28% | $2,244,552 | -$61,855 | -2.68% |
| Transportation | $486,896 | $10,201 | 2.14% | $486,901 | $5 | 0.00% |
| Computer Hardware & Off. Equip. | $66,818 | -$25,139 | -27.34% | $62,500 | -$4,318 | -6.46% |
| Curriculum & Instruction/Staff Development | $44,453 | $18,463 | 71.04% | $40,000 | -$4,453 | -10.02% |
| Maintenance | $270,852 | $10,290 | 3.95% | $272,809 | $1,957 | 0.72% |
| Misc. Expenses | $203,895 | $13,765 | 7.24% | $276,704 | $72,809 | 35.71% |
| Other Expenses | | $0 | | $46,132 | $46,132 | |
| Subtotal | $4,270,990 | $506,357 | 13.45% | $4,412,339 | $141,350 | 3.31% |

# Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District
## FY05 School Committee Budget
## APPROVED BUDGET
## March 31, 2004

| TOTAL DISTRICT | 03-04 Bud. | Change | % Chng | 04-05 Bud. | Change | % Chng |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Admin. Salaries/Expenses | 1,418,528 | -$20,519 | -1.4% | 1,497,153 | $78,625 | 5.5% |
| Instructional Salaries | $8,206,842 | -$770,401 | -8.6% | $9,016,527 | $809,686 | 9.9% |
| Instructional Expenses | $398,054 | $51,443 | 14.8% | $380,920 | -$17,134 | -4.3% |
| Utilities | $570,100 | $62,749 | 12.4% | $588,800 | $18,700 | 3.3% |
| Maintenance | $547,052 | $45,603 | 9.1% | $638,068 | $91,016 | 16.6% |
| Custodial Salaries | $492,664 | -$36,541 | -6.9% | $526,429 | $33,765 | 6.9% |
| Athletics, Xtracurric. & Extend. Respon. | $331,062 | $69,277 | 26.5% | $219,315 | -$111,747 | -33.8% |
| Health Services | $169,955 | -$5,780 | -3.3% | $150,681 | -$19,274 | -11.3% |
| Insurance/Pension/Taxes | $2,306,407 | $522,352 | 29.3% | $2,244,552 | -$61,855 | -2.7% |
| Transportation | $486,896 | $10,201 | 2.1% | $486,901 | $5 | 0.0% |
| Computer Hardware & Off. Equip | $66,818 | -$25,139 | -27.3% | $62,500 | -$4,318 | -6.5% |
| Curriculum & Instruction | $44,453 | $18,463 | 71.0% | $40,000 | -$4,453 | -10.0% |
| Special Education | $3,872,389 | $355,544 | 10.1% | $4,044,400 | $172,012 | 4.4% |
| Misc. Expenses | $203,895 | $13,765 | 7.2% | $276,704 | $72,809 | 35.7% |
| Other Expenses | $0 | $0 | | $337,375 | $337,375 | |
| Gross Budget Total | 19,115,114 | $291,016 | 1.55% | 20,510,326 | 1,395,212 | 7.30% |

| Non-Tax Revenues | 03-04 Bud. | Change | % Chng | 04-05 Bud. | Change | % Chng |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Transportation | $185,388 | -$210,382 | -53.2% | $176,118 | -$9,270 | -5.0% |
| Chapter 70 Aid | $3,061,591 | -$412,809 | -11.9% | $3,061,591 | $0 | 0.0% |
| Non-resident Tuition (School Choice) | $461,783 | -$49,355 | -9.7% | $439,468 | -$22,315 | -4.8% |
| Reserves | $120,468 | -$128,232 | -51.6% | $105,000 | -$15,468 | -12.8% |
| Interest Income | $21,000 | $4,842 | 30.0% | $12,000 | -$9,000 | -42.9% |
| Parking Fees | $15,000 | $157 | | $15,000 | $0 | 0.0% |
| Rent/Medicaid/PreSchool/Misc | $90,500 | -$127,387 | -58.5% | $145,250 | $54,750 | 60.5% |
| State Wards | $0 | $0 | | $0 | $0 | #DIV/0! |
| Fee-based (Band, chorus, Xtra-curric.) | $30,850 | $18,316 | 146.1% | $0 | -$30,850 | -100.0% |
| Athletic Fund | $101,600 | $13,600 | 15.5% | $0 | -$101,600 | -100.0% |
| Total Revenues | $4,088,180 | ($891,250) | -17.90% | $3,954,427 | ($133,753) | -3.27% |
| Net Budget Total | $15,026,934 | $1,182,266 | 8.54% | $16,555,899 | $1,528,965 | 10.17% |

| Town Appropriations | 03-04 Bud. | Change | % Chng | 04-05 Bud. | Change | % Chng |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hamilton Operational Share (by enrollment .6951/FY05) | $10,500,821 | $743,099 | 7.62% | $11,508,005 | $1,007,184 | 9.59% |
| Wenham Operational Share (by enrollment .3049/FY05) | $4,526,112 | $439,166 | 10.75% | $5,047,894 | $521,781 | 11.53% |
| Hamilton Debt Offset | $34,281 | | | $30,113 | | |
| Wenham Debt Offset | -$34,281 | | | -$30,113 | | |
| Hamilton Total Assessment | $10,535,102 | $741,286 | 7.57% | $11,538,118 | $1,003,017 | 9.52% |
| Wenham Total Assessment | $4,491,831 | $440,979 | 10.89% | $5,017,781 | $525,949 | 11.71% |

## NORTH SHORE REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

The Massachusetts Joint Committee on Education received two design options from the architectural firm of Design Partnership for the Merger of Essex Agricultural Institute and North Shore Technical High School. The cost estimate is $80 million. The designs will be reviewed before approval of the request of the project is put to a vote by the cities and towns that make up the North Shore Regional Vocational School District. Student enrollment as of October 1, 2003 was 449. Hamilton has 16 students.

MCAS scores continue to improve in mathematics. Last spring's 10th graders achieved a passing rate of 75% on their first attempt at the test. An increased number of students are passing at the Proficient and Advanced levels.

The two-year MCAS Prep sequence of classes appears to be paying off, as students become more well grounded in material required by the test. Perhaps more impressive is the fact that almost twice as many students (27%) scored in the "Proficient"range than last year (14%). This achievement reflects the large number of students taking higher-level mathematic courses and the quality of instruction in those classes.

There are two Vocational Clusters offered at NSTHS: Service Cluster and Technical Cluster. The Service Cluster includes: Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, Commercial Art, Graphics Arts, Health Tech, and Marketing. The Technical Cluster includes: Carpentry/Masonry, Automotive/Collision Repair, Machine Technology, and Information Systems Technology.

The Special Education Department has identified approximately 190 students, representing 43% of the general student population, as having special needs. The Special Needs education program is inclusive in nature. Inclusion classes are offered in all grades and in every major academic subject area. In conjunction with this, many special needs students receive academic support services in the Tutoring Center, under the direction of the Special Education Coordinator.

The focus of the career exploratory program is to familiarize all 9th grade students with North Shore Technical High School's vocational/technical areas. The exploratory has been modified in the last two years so that students spend four (4) periods in shop and four (4) in academics. The students will have completed their exploratory in the early spring and will them re-explore three (3) shops before making their final shop selection.

During December, guidance administered the CDM Interest Inventory to all freshmen. This is a tool used to assist the students in choosing their program and a springboard for discussion about post secondary plans.

In the 2002-03 school year, over seventy students participated in the Cooperative Education Program. Each of these students worked during school time in their vocational/technical area on the job gaining experience and school credit. North Shore Tech is using the modified Massachusetts Work-Based Learning Plan developed by the Eastern Massachusetts Cooperative Coordinators to evaluate the student's progress in the following areas: communication, problem solving, professionalism and interaction with co-workers.

**David W. Ketcham, Hamilton Representative**
**Amelia P. O'Malley, Superintendent-Director**

# REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

I would like to take this opportunity to say my farewell to the townspeople of Hamilton. It is with heavy heart that I must resign as your Town Clerk. It has been a wonderful 13 years as your Clerk and I will miss all the wonderful friends I have made over these years. I will never be able to thank all the people that supported me and helped me during that time. I hope you all know how much that meant to me and I will never forget you and I hope that you will not forget me. I will be Chairman on the Council on Aging and I hope to see a few of you there.

I will give a quick summary of the statistical information that transpired over the year and I have included 2002 figures as comparison:

## MARRIAGE LICENSES ISSUED

| | 2003 | 2002 |
|---|---|---|
| RESIDENTS (One or both parties from Hamilton) | 18 | 20 |
| NON RESIDENTS | 7 | 9 |
| TOTALS: | 25 | 29 |

## BIRTHS RECORDED

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| MALE | 51 | 54 |
| FEMALE | 51 | 49 |
| TOTALS: | 102 | 103 |

## DEATHS RECORDED

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| RESIDENTS | 41 | 40 |
| NON RESIDENTS | 3 | 0 |
| TOTALS: | 44 | 40 |

The reports of all Town Meetings and Town Elections may be found following this report.

The annual census forms were mailed out, and again we are urging residents to complete these forms and return them as soon as possible. Massachusetts State and Federal funding and representation depend on population. Also, the listing of every household and resident is very important to our Police and Fire Departments for safety reasons.

| | PRECINCT 1 | PRECINCT 2 | PRECINCT 3 | TOTALS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| VOTERS | 1,969 | 1,752 | 1,297 | 5,018 |
| NON-VOTERS | 1,266 | 1,185 | 1,176 | 3,627 |
| TOTAL RESIDENTS | 3,235 | 2,937 | 2,473 | 8,645 |

Again, just let me, once again, to thank you all for making my service to you as Town Clerk so very rewarding. I know you will support Jane in the same manner. Thank you again.

Theresa M. "Mimi" Fanning, CMC
Town Clerk

# TOWN OF HAMILTON
# ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
## Held
## Monday, May 5, 2003
## At
## Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School

## Adjourned Session
## Held
## Wednesday, May 7, 2003
## At
## Miles River Middle School

At the close of registration April 25, 2003 there were 4,816 registered voters.

Precinct 1 -- 1,907
Precinct 2 -- 1,705
Precinct 3 -- 1,204

Moderator asked all to rise and join in the singing of the National Anthem led by Harmony of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School.

Hamilton Troop 35 of the Boy Scouts of America, presented the colors and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator declared a quorum being present (150) and the warrant returned showing it had been properly served, opened the 210th Annual Town Meeting at 7:35 PM with 574 registered voters checked present.

Precinct 1 -- 188
Precinct 2 -- 242
Precinct 3 -- 144

Tellers appointed by the Moderator, and duly sworn were:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Thomas Catalano | -- | 595 Highland Street |
| Walter Leszczynski | -- | 10 Honeysuckle Road |
| Leon Purington | -- | 32 Mill Street |
| Ervin Fraser | -- | 37 Martel Road |
| William Boesch | -- | 12 Gifford Road |

In overflow space:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Robert Poole | -- | 56B Moynihan Road |
| Margaret Dumas | -- | 28 Maple Street |

Moderator then announced he has asked non-resident members of the Regional School System and those assisting the Selectmen or Finance Committee to be present here so they may be available to answer questions. Members of the press (and the video crew) have also been allowed to be present. I remind those allowed here to do nothing that may influence the counting of a vote.

We have set up the music room, behind the stage as overflow space. There is a closed circuit television set in the music room and two tellers. All other non-registered visitors must be seated in the visitor's area in the music room.

The Moderator then announced another procedural note. These proceedings are recorded so as to have an accurate record of the meeting. Therefore, unless I recognize you by name, please use

the microphones provided and give your name and address when you arise to address the Moderator and the meeting. People in the music room desiring to speak to any article should contact one of the tellers and arrange to be brought to the microphones in the auditorium.

All registered voters have been given a distinctive Voter ID Card when checking into the meeting. Do not lose or destroy this card. You will need to show the card on any counted vote. The tellers have been instructed that if they cannot see your card, or you cannot produce it when asked, your vote will not be counted.

Moderator asked all to rise for the invocation by Pastor Scott Ross of the Jubilee Christian Church.

Moderator then recognized William Bowler, Selectman.

Mr. Bowler stated he was asked in behalf of the Selectmen, to recognize and thank all who participated in the "Give Back to the Town" week-end. There were 240 children and 25 adults who participated. They raked the parks, painted snow plows and hand railings and various jobs at the Library, Town Hall and Concession Stand. Also mentioned much more. Were helped by Paul Rigol, Bob Timpani and Steve Kenney. It was a great effort for the Town and hope it will become an annual event. Concluded by thanking Heather Ford and all who contributed in its success.

Mr. Bowler continued by stating he was honored to be asked to say a few words to recognize the fact that this will be their colleague, David Neill's final town meeting as Selectman. David has served the town officially for 17 years. Eight on the Board of Appeals and 9 as Selectman. Continued on to praise David for his good work on the Board of Appeals and as Selectman, especially his work with NESWC. Said we all owe him a great debt of gratitude, which was followed by a standing ovation.

Moderator asked if there were any further announcements from the front of the hall, there being none, proceeded with the meeting.

Announced, due to fact, there is an overflow of voters in the music room it is appropriate we appoint an Assistant Moderator to officiate and supervise in the music room overflow location. He asked Robert Poole, former Police Chief and current member of the Housing Authority to be the Assistant Moderator. If later in the evening it should appear that enough seats become available in this auditorium to accommodate the voters in the music room, he may call a brief recess to allow them to join us.

Moderator then gave the Rules of Order for the meeting. Announced that if the meeting tonight is not completed it will be recessed to Wednesday night at 7:30, just learned the auditorium will not be available Wednesday night so if we reconvene it will be in the Middle School Multi-purpose Room. Continued on to state corrections will be made when the particular article comes before the meeting.

Moderator then introduced town officials seated on stage and at the head table in front of the room.

Moderator then proceeded to the warrant.

**ARTICLE 1-1**
**Election of Officers and Ballot Questions**

To elect the following Town Officers and to vote for the ballot questions shown as **Appendix A** of this Warrant at the Annual Town Election on Thursday, May 15, 2003 from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm at the Winthrop School.

Town Moderator for one year
One Selectmen for three years
One Assessor for three years
Two members of the Planning Board for five years
Two members of the Hamilton-Wenham Library Trustees-at-large for three years
Three members of the Hamilton-Wenham School Committee for three years

**The vote on Article 1-1 is by ballot on Thursday, the 15th of May, 2003 at the Winthrop School. The polls will be opened at 7:00 am and will close at 8:00 pm.**

**********

**ARTICLE 1-2**
**Reports**

Moved by David Neill, duly seconded, that the reports of Town Officers and Committees be received and placed on file.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

Moderator then recognized Laurie Wilson, chairman of the Finance and Advisory Committee.

Laurie referred to hand-out and touched on a few items. Complimented all departments for cutting their budgets to come into the final budget at a 2.9% increase.

---

## TOWN OF HAMILTON, MASSACHUSETTS
## FINANCE AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### FISCAL 2004 FINANCIAL SUMMARY
### MAY 2003

Dear Hamilton Citizen:

The Finance and Advisory Committee is pleased to present this report to you for our Town Meeting on May 5, 2003.

### Overview

From last year's Finance and Advisory Committee report:
"The Finance Committee applauds the efforts of our town departments in managing its spending growth in FY03. That being said, FY04 and FY05 look to be difficult revenue generation years for the town. We do not expect the state to be able to increase its local aid commitment to the town for the foreseeable future. In fact, we will be encouraged if the state is able to maintain the status quo until strong economic and tax growth returns to the Commonwealth. In order to avoid an operating override in FY04, we believe that town departments are going to have to execute additional spending reductions. Personnel reductions may be a reality for FY04. As for the schools, we see FY04 and beyond as even more difficult than the fiscal crisis we are currently experiencing. The Finance Committee strongly defends a high quality education system for this town. It is a major reason why residents appreciate living in this town. The burden is squarely placed on the shoulders of the school committee and administration to fundamentally change the way it operates so as to ensure educational value for our tax dollars."

This was the closing statement of our report last year. Unfortunately, last year's forecast has become this year's reality. As predicted, the year has been a difficult and challenging one. Everyone involved with town government finances has had to contend with the difficult mission of preparing a reasonable budget in an environment where cost of government is increasing and revenues are declining.

### Town Operating Budget

Revenue

On the revenue side, we have forecasted a 20% decrease in State Local Aid (cherry sheet) for FY'04. Although the governor's and the legislature's plans differ in approach, under either scenario the impact on the total town budget will be a revenue reduction of 15 to 20 %. This follows an 11% decrease in FY03. We also forecast that Local Receipts will be lower due to decreases in investment income and building related permitting. In summary, we anticipate that total revenue to the town exclusive of property tax revenue will decrease by nearly 10% from '03 levels.

Operating Expense

On the operating expense side, we requested town departments to prepare their fiscal '04 expense budgets keeping increases to 2% over FY03 appropriation levels. The final budget reflects a total town government expense increase of 2.9%. Eliminating the effect of non-controllable insurance and retirement increases, town government expense increased by 1%. We

are pleased with the departmental budgets that were submitted to us and presented in the warrant book and thank all departments for their cooperative spirit and hard work.

Warrant Articles

Warrant articles for non-education expenditures reflect a 4% decrease from last year .The Finance Committee's comments and recommendations on several of these articles are included later in this report.

Summary

After application of free cash net town expenditures increase by almost $328,000, a 9.9% increase. Based on fiscal year '03 data this would represent approximately a $120.00 increase on a home valued at $360,000 or 30 cents on the tax rate.

## Education Expenditures

Regional Vocational Technical School

By contract we are obligated to pay the annual assessment from the Regional Vocational Technical School. The fiscal '04 assessment is presented as a warrant article. It totals $147,700 before application of state aid which is anticipated to be approximately $20,000 for a $127,700 net assessment.. This is an increase of $80,000 dollars over last years net cost of $47,118. It reflects a reduction in state aid and an increase in the number of students attending from Hamilton to 9 from last years 5 minimum. At over $14,000 per student, this is a very expensive education option.

Hamilton Wenham Regional School District

The Finance Committee has reviewed the proposed school budget and can understand the School District's FY '04 request. We did not ask the school district for level funding, as we did not make the same request of the Town. We arrived at a 2% increase in funding over FY'03 with the Wenham Finance Committee; however we have only increased our share by just over 1% as Wenham's assessment increased due to their increased enrollment. We would have been well within the levy limit to have increased our contribution, but with the regional school agreement, we work in concert with Wenham.

## Significant Warrant Articles

**Roads Program**

We think that it is very important to look closely at the expenditure of Town funds for roads this year both because there are tight budgetary constraints and also because the Town has available $257,000 of unexpended Chapter 90 funds for road improvements that has been allocated from the State in prior years and an estimated $129,000 additional funding from the state for fiscal year 2004. This means that the Town will have $386,000 available for road work from May of this year to June of next year before any additional allocation from the Town. With this sizeable amount in hand the Finance Committee had recommended that the Town fund an additional $60,000 not the $188,000 that is being requested in the warrant article. We strongly support the roads program and its systematic approach to maintaining a valuable part of our infrastructure but feel that $188,000 is an excessive request for 2004.

**Elder Van**

This is the one new proposed program for Hamilton for FY04 and the Finance Committee is in support of this article. The Town can appreciate that most of the van was paid through a grant, Hamilton is responsible for $6000, and it is laudable to see the towns of Hamilton and Wenham working together to provide this needed service to the seniors of our towns. We are very hopeful that the Selectmen of both towns will work out an acceptable agreement for the operating costs of this program. We would like to reiterate that the operating cost of $16,000 for FY04 is for six months of operation, and that the town will need to plan in subsequent years for a twelve month budget for this service. We feel strongly that this program lends itself to a user based form of cost sharing rather than a formula based method.

**School Override**

The majority of the Finance Committee is in support of this override. This was a very difficult decision to make, however we stand in agreement with the School District in their attempt to maintain the core values of the school system. These values are to maintain our class sizes, maintain the middle school concept, and maintain the comprehensive high school program. These are critical values to keep and very necessary for the kind of school system most residents value. This past year saw many cuts to the schools; classes have been eliminated and are not returned in this year's request. This year's override is needed to maintain what we currently have and to not cut further (which would mean elementary class size of 26-28, middle school with large study halls, ½ year of science and social studies and no world languages, further decrease of class periods in high school.) The schools are an important component of our town and should not be decimated because the state is cutting aid to the towns.

We have maintained this position for the last few years. We know that the town has had to face a challenging fiscal year. However, for this year we did not make any severe cuts to other town departments and we support the schools in providing a quality education to all children in our town.

**Looking Forward**

In the short term we see no easy answers to the issues that we all are wrestling with for the 2004 budget. It is our feeling that there will be no sharp up in State funding. Reconciling the Town's desire for a high level of service whether it be in DPW functions, emergency services, elder services, education or recreation programs with the very basic consideration that the Town be a community in which all our citizens can afford to reside, will continue to present a series of difficult choices. With non-compensation expenditures pared to the bone, we will be faced next year with the likelihood of staffing cutbacks and curtailment of non-essential services. Although over the longer run we are hopeful that undertakings such as the Master Plan Study will provide a blueprint for moving some of the tax burden from our residential base to other sources of revenue, we see no immediate relief. The best we can do whether we are town officials or citizens is to try and make reasonable and objective choices keeping in mind that as a community we have an obligation to all of our fellow townspeople.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Wilson (chair)
Stephen Homer
Lyman Stookey
Henrietta Gates
Steve Loeper

## Fiscal year 2004
## Financial Summary in $000's

| | Budget FY03 | Proposed FY04 | $$$ Change | % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Revenue:** | | | | |
| State Local Aid | $ 726 | $ 581 | (145) | (20) |
| Local Receipts | 1,539 | 1,477 | (62) | (4) |
| All Other Revenue | 438 | 384 | (54) | (13) |
| | $2,703 | $ 2,442 | ($261) | (9.6) |
| **Free Cash to be Applied to Tax Rate** | | | | |
| | $605 | $689 | $84 | 12.0 |
| **Expenditures** | | | | |
| Town Operating Budget | $6,004 | $6,181 | 177 | 2.9 |
| Warrant Articles | 616 | 591 | (25) | (4.1) |
| Vo Tech Assessment | 47 | 128 | 81 | |
| Reg. Schools (before override) | 10,774 | 10,867 | 93 | 1.0 |
| Total | $17,441 | $17,767 | $326 | 1.9 |
| **Net Expenditures To Be Raised by Taxation Before School Override** | | | | |
| | $14,133 | $14,636 | $503 | 3.6 |
| **Proposed School Override** | | $1,337 | $1,337 | |
| **Net Expenditures To Be Raised by Taxation with School Override** | | | | |
| | $14,133 | $15,973 | $1840 | 13.0 |
| **Warrant Article Summary** | | | | |
| Chapter 90 Road Funding | $129 | $129 | | |
| Highway Improvements | 188 | 188 | | |
| FinCom Reserve Fund | 110 | 110 | | |
| Stabilization Fund | 100 | 100 | | |
| Master Plan Study | 50 | 30 | | |
| Elder Van | | 22 | | |
| | 2003 | 2004 | $$ Change | % |
| Other Articles | 39 | 12 | | |
| Total | $617 | $591 | (26) | (4.2) |
| **Stabilization Fund Articles** | | | | |
| Town Hall Septic System | | $40 | | |
| Public Safety Building Study | | $35 | | |

Moderator then recognized Kalil Boghdan, for a report of the Public Safety Building Committee.

Dr. Boghdan as Chairman of the Public Safety Building Committee stated he would give the **Interim Progress Report.**

On December 23, 2002 the Public Safety Building Committee was appointed by the Hamilton Board of Selectmen to study and to propose new facilities for the police, the fire, and the emergency center. The Committee has been meeting since January, 2003 and is comprised of Hamilton residents: Bill Clifford, Robert DeFelice, John Hale, Philip McCarthy, and Kalil Boghdan (Chairman). The Committee's mission is to recommend to the Board of Selectmen, new facilities which will meet the needs of the Police Department, the Fire Department, and the Emergency Center.

As a brief history, Hamilton voters turned down plans for a new police facility and a new Fire facility ten years ago. In May of 2002, plans for a new police facility and plans for renovations to the existing fire station were voted down at the ballot. Understanding the need to update the existing police and fire department facilities, the committee's charge by the Hamilton Board of Selectmen is to examine the most recent study undertaken for the police and fire departments, and to propose new facilities which will meet the needs of the public safety departments and the needs of the citizens of the town of Hamilton.

The newly appointed committee feels that before a proposal for new police facilities and new fire facilities are brought before the citizens of the town, several factors need to be taken into consideration. They are:

- The primary concern of the committee is to explore all options for construction of facilities to satisfy the needs of the Police, Fire, and ECO departments using the most cost effective solutions.
- The committee will investigate how similar communities have satisfied their needs, and publish its findings for the Hamilton community.
- The next task will be to investigate construction options including rehabilitating current facilities, alternative building materials, and alternative financing vehicles available to complete the project. The committee will publish its findings for the citizens of Hamilton.
- The final task will be to present to the town a plan for Public Safety facilities that satisfy all the mandatory building regulations, that maintains the community atmosphere of the town, and that which is affordable.
- The League of Women Voters is investigating the issue of sharing services with other towns. The Public Safety Building Committee is monitoring that process and will remain in communication with the League of Women Voters. If and when the League of Women voters makes recommendations that are accepted by the town, the Public Safety Building Committee will incorporate those findings into its investigation.

In closing, all Public Safety Building committee meetings are open meetings and are open to the public, and public input at these meetings will be noted and appreciated. If the citizens of Hamilton have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact one of the members of the committee. The wish of the Public Safety Building Committee is to produce a plan which serves the needs of Hamilton citizens into the future. The committee is working hard to bring plans before the citizens of Hamilton, and a final proposal for new facilities will not be proposed until early 2004.

Moderator recognized Peter Clark of the Citizens Action Planning Council.

Mr. Clark explained the warrant article tonight deals strictly with changes in by-laws, new policy adaptations, new programs which we've implemented all year. Thanked everyone for their support.

Moderator thanked Mr. Clark. Noticed tonight we are joined as a guest, Senator Bruce Tarr. Asked that he stand and be recognized and asked if he had anything to say.

Senator Tarr made a short report on the budget being debated on Beacon Hill. Thanked David Neill for all his time and work for the town. Reported Representative Brad Hill is debating the budget tonight and the Senate will get the budget the third week in May. Went on to explain trying to change the Chapter 70 fund formula to better help Hamilton and Wenham. Thanked all for attending the meeting and the Moderator for allowing him to speak.

Moderator returned to the warrant.

**********

**ARTICLE 2-1**
**Compensation Classification Table**

Moderator read the article giving the corrections on Page 11 of the Warrant Book to the Emergency Center Employees Scale. Then recognized Bob Bullivant.

Moved by Bob Bullivant, Chairman Personnel Board, duly seconded, that the Town amend the Personnel By-law, as recommended by the Personnel Board, by adopting changes to the classification and compensation plans, copies of which are on file with the Town Clerk and which are set forth in Appendix B of the 2003 Warrant Book, with the corrections read by the moderator.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES

**********

## Compensation Table FY2004

### *CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION OF FULL AND PART-TIME POSITIONS*

### *General Administration*

**Full Time Annual Salary (except where noted as hourly)**

| Steps | I Start | II 6 mos. | III 18 mos. | IV 30 mos. | V 42 mos. | VI 54 mos. | VII 66 mos. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Town Administrator | 63,225 | 65,755 | 68,385 | 71,122 | 73,965 | 76,925 | 79,915 |
| Finance Director/Acct.(2) | 63,225 | 65,755 | 68,385 | 71,122 | 73,965 | 76,925 | 79,915 |
| Treasurer-Collector | 46,071 | 47,913 | 49,830 | 51,823 | 53,896 | 56,052 | 58,294 |
| Town Accountant | 39,043 | 40,604 | 42,228 | 43,917 | 45,675 | 47,500 | 49,401 |
| Asst. Town Acct. | 15.83hr. | 16.47hr. | 17.13hr. | 17.81hr. | 18.52hr. | 19.26hr. | 20.03hr. |
| Director of Assessors Office | 39,043 | 40,604 | 42,228 | 43,917 | 45,675 | 47,500 | 49,401 |
| Chief Appraiser(1) | 46,071 | 47,913 | 49,830 | 51,823 | 53,896 | 56,052 | 58,294 |
| Asst. to Town Administrator | 14.81hr. | 15.41hr. | 16.04hr. | 16.68hr. | 17.36hr. | 18.03hr. | 18.77hr. |

(1) Currently under a contract rate which differs from the salary in the table. See Contract Rate section.
(2) Less than full time. Hourly salary based on annual salary from table.

**Part Time Hourly Rates**

| Steps | I Start | II 6 mos. | III 18 mos. | IV 36 mos. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Clerk/Typist | 12.83 | 13.33 | 13.88 | 14.43 |
| Custodian | 13.41 | 13.94 | 14.50 | 15.08 |
| Administrative Assistant | 13.72 | 14.26 | 14.85 | 15.44 |
| Facilities Repair and Maintenance | 15.83 | 16.47 | 17.13 | 17.81 |
| MIS Director | | | | |

**Town Hall Union Employees Hourly compensation established by union contract. Rates shown for information purposes only.**

| Steps | I Start | II 6 mos. | III 18 mos. | IV 36 mos. | V 48 mos. | VI 60 mos. | VII 72 mos. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Administrative Assistant - Grade 1 | 12.95 | 13.46 | 14.01 | 14.58 | 15.15 | 15.77 | 16.39 |
| Administrative Assistant - Grade 2 | 13.86 | 14.40 | 15.00 | 15.60 | 16.21 | 16.86 | 17.54 |
| Police Clerk/Stenographer - Grade 2 | 13.86 | 14.40 | 15.00 | 15.60 | 16.21 | 16.86 | 17.54 |
| Assistant Treasurer/ Collector – Grade 3 | 15.99 | 16.64 | 17.29 | 17.98 | 18.70 | 19.45 | 20.23 |
| Assistant Assessor - Grade 3 | 15.99 | 16.64 | 17.29 | 17.98 | 18.70 | 19.45 | 20.23 |

## *Recreation Department*

| Steps | I Start | II 6 mos. | III 18 mos. | IV 30 mos. | V 42 mos. | VI 54 mos. | VII 66 mos. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Recreation Director | 39,043 | 40,604 | 42,228 | 43,917 | 45,675 | 47,500 | 49,401 |

## *Building and Land Use*

**Full Time Annual Salary**

| Steps | I Start | II 6 mos. | III 18 mos. | IV 30 mos. | V 42 mos. | VI 54 mos. | VII 66 mos. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Building/ Zoning Inspector(1) | 33,086 | 34,409 | 35,788 | 37,218 | 38,707 | 40,255 | 41,866 |
| Conservation Coordinator(2) | 33,086 | 34,409 | 35,788 | 37,218 | 38,707 | 40,255 | 41,866 |
| Planning Coordinator(2) | 33,086 | 34,409 | 35,788 | 37,218 | 38,707 | 40,255 | 41,866 |

(1) Less than full-time. Currently under a contract rate which differs from the salary in the table. See Contract Rate section.
(2) Less than full time. Hourly salary based on annual salary from table.

## *Public Works*

**Full Time Annual Salary**

| Steps | I Start | II 6 mos. | III 18 mos. | IV 30 mos. | V 42 mos. | VI 54 mos. | VII 66 mos. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Public Works Director | 63,225 | 65,755 | 68,385 | 71,122 | 73,965 | 76,925 | 79,915 |

**Department of Public Works Union Employees**
**Hourly compensation established by union contract. Rates shown for information purposes only.**

| Step | I Start | II 6 mos. | III 18 mos. | IV 30 mos. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Foreman | 17.80 | 18.54 | 19.32 | 20.13 |
| Mechanic | 17.80 | 18.54 | 19.32 | 20.13 |
| Foreman 2 | 16.26 | 16.93 | 17.65 | 18.38 |
| Heavy Equipment Operator | 15.45 | 16.09 | 16.76 | 17.46 |
| Truck Driver/Laborer | 14.46 | 15.00 | 15.61 | 16.26 |
| Water Sys. Oper. Lic. Class 3 | 16.02 | 16.68 | 17.35 | 18.07 |
| Water Sys. Oper. Lic. Class 4 | 17.80 | 18.54 | 19.32 | 20.13 |

## *Public Safety*

**Full Time Annual Salary (except where noted as hourly)**

| Steps | I Start | II 6 mos. | III 18 mos. | IV 30 mos. | V 42 mos. | VI 54 mos. | VII 66 mos. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chief of Police (1) | 63,225 | 65,755 | 68,385 | 71,122 | 73,965 | 76,925 | 79,915 |
| Emergency Center Supervisor | 39,043 | 40,604 | 42,228 | 43,917 | 45,675 | 47,500 | 49,401 |
| Fire Chief | 63,225 | 65,755 | 68,385 | 71,122 | 73,965 | 76,925 | 79,915 |
| Fire Inspector | 39,043 | 40,604 | 42,228 | 43,917 | 45,675 | 47,500 | 49,401 |
| Asst. Fire Inspector/Firefighter | 14.61hr. | 15.20hr. | 15.79hr. | 16.43hr. | 17.10hr. | 17.77hr. | 18.49hr. |
| Firefighter/Operator(2) | 14.61hr. | 15.20hr. | 15.79hr. | 16.43hr. | 17.10hr. | 17.77hr. | 18.49hr. |
| Health Agent | 46,071 | 47,913 | 49,830 | 51,823 | 53,896 | 56,052 | 58,294 |

(1) Currently under a contract rate which differs from the salary in the table. See Contract Rate section.
(2) Firefighter/Operator holding officer position in Call Force will receive 5% differential.

**Part Time**

| Steps | I Start | II 6 mos. | III 18 mos. | IV 36 mos. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dispatcher (3) | 13.42hr. | 14.21hr. | 15.07hr. | 15.94hr. |
| Reserve Patrolman (4) | 14.55hr. | 15.42hr. | 16.34hr. | 17.33hr. |
| Fire Equipment Mech. | 16.78hr. | 17.46hr. | 18.16hr. | 18.88hr. |
| Animal Control Off. | 12.67hr. | 13.18hr. | 13.70hr. | 14.25hr. |
| Custodian | 13.41hr. | 13.94hr. | 14.50hr. | 15.08hr. |

(3) The base pay differential for evenings (3PM to11PM) is 3% and for nights (11PM to 7AM) is 5%.
(4) The base pay differential for evenings (4PM to12AM) is 3% and for nights (12AM to 8AM) is 5%.

**Call Firefighters Wages (5)**

| Rank | Regular Hourly Wage | Training Hourly Wage |
|---|---|---|
| Deputy Chief | 21.74 | 18.48 |
| Captain | 20.13 | 17.11 |
| Lieutenant | 18.52 | 15.74 |
| Fire Fighter with CPR First Responder | 16.11 | 13.69 |
| Inspector; Electrical/Building | 18.52 | 15.74 |
| Probationary Fire Fighter | 13.69 | 11.64 |
| State Certified Fire Fighter Level I | 16.91 | 14.37 |

(5) State Certified Firefighters receive an additional 5% at any rank.

**Emergency Center Union Employees**

**Weekly rates established by union contract. Rates shown for information purposes only.**

| Steps | I Start | II 6 mos. | III 18 mos. | IV 36 mos. | V 48 mos. | VI 60 mos. | VII 72 mos. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dispatcher (3) | 536.71 | 568.55 | 602.66 | 637.20 | 662.69 | 689.20 | 716.77 |

(3) The base pay differential for evenings (3PM to11PM) is 3% and for nights (11PM to 7AM) is 5%.

**Police Union Employees (New Contract Under Negotiation)**

**Weekly rates established by contract negotiation. Rates shown for information purposes only.**

| Steps | I Start | II 12 mos. | III 24 mos. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Patrolman | 640.96 | 718.91 | 796.17 |

A Sergeant's pay is equal to the maximum Patrolman's plus 15%
Lieutenant's pay is equal to the maximum Patrolman's plus 25%
The base pay differential for evenings (4PM to12AM) is 3% and for nights (12AM to 8AM) is 5%.

## *Other*

| | |
|---|---|
| EMT Pay (non-union) | 35.75wk |

**Special Rates For Occasional Help**

| | Range of Compensation | |
|---|---|---|
| General Clerical | 7.00hr. | 10.30hr. |
| Laborer: Light Work | 7.00hr. | 11.33hr. |
| Seasonal Recreational Help | 6.75hr. | 15.45hr. |

### *Positions With An Annual Stipend*

| | Annual Rate |
|---|---|
| Plumbing/Gas Inspector | 11,507 |
| Electrical Inspector | 11,507 |
| Asst. Plumbing/Gas Inspector | 708 |
| Asst.. Electrical Inspector | 708 |
| Asst.. Building Inspector | 708 |
| Sealer of Weights and Measures | 1,616 |
| Registrar of Voters | 262 |
| Deputy Fire Chief | 1,500 |
| Fire Dept. Captains | 750 |
| Fire Dept. Training Officer | 500 |
| Animal Inspector | 3,500 |
| Chairman Board of Health | 749 |
| Board of Health Members | 424 |
| Appeal Board Chairman | 1,443 |

### *Elected Officials Other Than Full Time Employees*

**Rates shown for information purposes only**

| | Annual Rate |
|---|---|
| Chairman/Selectmen | 2,823 |
| Selectmen | 2,496 |
| Chairman of the Assessors Board | 2,519 |
| Assessor Board Members | 1,882 |

### *Contract Rates*

**Employee Contracts – Part Time**

| | Weekly Rate |
|---|---|
| Building/Zoning Inspector | 451.57 |
| Chief Appraiser | 555.98 |

**Employee Contracts – Full Time**

| | Annual Rate |
|---|---|
| Chief of Police | |

(Base pay computed at 1.8 times Patrolman salary, Step 3)

(Police Union Contract Under negotiation)

**ARTICLE 2-2**
**General Town Appropriations**

Moderator explained the handling of any "held" items, to be taken up after the complete budget is read. Continued on reading the budget as set forth as **Appendix C** of the 2003 Warrant Book. Moderator read a line by line reading of the budget departmental totals only. Moderator called for the motion.

Moved by Laurie Wilson, duly seconded that the Town raise and appropriate the sums for schools, highways, and all other Town expenses which are set forth in the 2004 Fiscal year Budget appearing as Appendix C of the Warrant Book with the additions and corrections read by the moderator.

There being no further discussion, Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

## APPENDIX C

APPENDIX C

TOWN OF HAMILTON
FISCAL YEAR 7/01/04

| ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '00 | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '01 | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '02 | ACCOUNT | ACCOUNT NAME | TOTAL APPROPRIATION FISCAL '03 | CHANGE | TOTAL RECOMMENDED FISCAL 2004 | % CHNGE FROM PRIOR |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | **GENERAL TOWN GOVERNMENT** | | | | |
| | | | | **SELECTMEN** | | | | |
| 2,567 | 2,303 | 2,713 | 15122-510001 | SALARY OF CHAIRMAN | 2,768 | 55 | 2,823 | 2.0% |
| 4,530 | 4,973 | 4,798 | 15122-510002 | SALARIES OF MEMBERS | 4,894 | 98 | 4,992 | 2.0% |
| 51,030 | 60,181 | 84,465 | 15122-500003 | TOWN ADMINISTRATOR | 68,391 | 4,724 | 73,115 | 8.9% |
| 29,087 | 30,728 | 32,930 | 15122-500004 | ASSIST TO TOWN ADMINISTRATOR | 35,069 | (4,164) | 30,905 | -11.9% |
| 3,168 | 2,626 | 2,422 | 15122-510005 | CONTRACT SERV. - MINUTES SECRETA | 3,000 | 0 | 3,000 | 0.0% |
| 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 15122-520007 | H A W C | 3,000 | 0 | 3,000 | 0.0% |
| 1,800 | 1,800 | 0 | 15122-520008 | SR HOME CARE SERVICE | 1,900 | 0 | 1,900 | 0.0% |
| 2,750 | 2,750 | 2,750 | 15122-520009 | HEALTH & EDUCATION SERVICES | 2,750 | 0 | 2,750 | 0.0% |
| 2,600 | 2,800 | 2,600 | 15122-520010 | EMPLOYEE ASSIST PROGRAM | 2,600 | 0 | 2,800 | 0.0% |
| 17,000 | 15,828 | 15,132 | 15122-520014 | TELEPHONE EXPENSE | 15,500 | 0 | 15,500 | 0.0% |
| 40,084 | 40,439 | 40,802 | 15122-520015 | STREET LIGHTING EXPENSE | 42,000 | 3,000 | 45,000 | 7.1% |
| 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 15122-520019 | MAPC REGIONAL SERVICES | 4,000 | (4,000) | 0 | -100.0% |
| 14,199 | 9,879 | 8,813 | 15122-540006 | EXPENSES | 10,500 | (500) | 10,000 | -4.8% |
| 6,766 | 6,970 | 5,131 | 15122-540013 | TOWN REPORTS | 7,000 | (2,000) | 5,000 | -28.8% |
| 46,979 | 0 | 0 | 15132-570002 | RESERVE FUND TRANSFERS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| 1,781 | 1,730 | 1,813 | 15692-540001 | MEMORIAL DAY | 1,900 | 0 | 1,900 | 0.0% |
| 354,672 | 272,930 | 358,465 | 15911-560001 | RETIREMENT FUND | 343,500 | 26,506 | 370,008 | 7.7% |
| 208,026 | 285,789 | 322,077 | 15914-570002 | GROUP HEALTH/LIFE INSURANCE | 382,600 | 48,032 | 430,832 | 12.6% |
| 78,859 | 84,092 | 86,689 | 15916-570003 | P&C INSURANCE | 91,000 | 42,700 | 133,700 | 46.9% |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | | REIMBURSEMENT WENHAM LIB BLDG | 0 | (3,798) | (3,798) | #DIV/0! |
| 25,598 | 29,983 | 32,267 | 15917-560004 | MEDICARE TAX | 32,000 | 2,000 | 34,000 | 6.3% |
| 25,649 | 23,157 | 21,750 | 15918-560005 | FICA TAX | 26,000 | (2,000) | 24,000 | -7.7% |
| | | | | WATER REIMB TRANSFERS | (79,255) | 0 | (79,255) | 0.0% |
| 924,145 | 885,534 | 1,012,617 | | | 1,001,117 | 110,653 | 1,111,770 | 11.1% |
| | | | | **PUBLIC BUILDING & MAINTENANCE** | | | | |
| 15,636 | 23,915 | 25,186 | 15192-500001 | WAGES/OUTSIDE CONTRACTOR | 27,821 | 177 | 27,998 | 0.8% |
| 5,400 | 1,350 | 0 | 15192-510019 | EARLY RETIREMENT INCENTIVE | 0 | 0 | 0 | #DIV/0! |
| 20,159 | 21,742 | 21,913 | 15192-540002 | OPERATING EXP /MAINTENANCE | 21,500 | 23,000 | 44,500 | 107.0% |
| 33,552 | 15,768 | 17,058 | 15192-540003 | TOWN HALL MAINTENANCE | 23,000 | (23,000) | 0 | -100.0% |
| 74,747 | 62,773 | 64,157 | | | 72,321 | 177 | 72,498 | 0.2% |
| | | | | **RECREATION** | | | | |
| 39,208 | 41,803 | 44,772 | 15630-500001 | SALARY OF DIRECTOR | 47,504 | 1,897 | 49,401 | 4.0% |
| 11,887 | 12,588 | 14,258 | 15630-510002 | ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT | 15,393 | 998 | 16,391 | 6.5% |
| 5,301 | 0 | 2,420 | 15630-510003 | CUSTODIAN | 8,991 | 341 | 9,332 | 3.8% |
| 5,885 | 3,769 | 7,173 | 15630-520004 | UTILITIES & EXPENSES | 7,000 | 0 | 7,000 | 0.0% |
| 62,280 | 58,138 | 68,623 | | | 78,888 | 3,238 | 82,124 | 4.1% |
| | | | | **FINANCE DEPARTMENT** | | | | |
| | | | | **FINANCE DIRECTOR/ACCOUNTANT** | | | | |
| 39,924 | 51,791 | 46,982 | 15135-510001 | FINANCE DIRECTOR/ACCOUNTANT WA | 49,805 | 2,385 | 52,190 | 4.8% |
| 19,456 | 18,708 | 20,925 | 15135-510002 | ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT | 22,350 | 1,450 | 23,800 | 6.5% |
| 2,265 | 3,189 | 2,314 | 15135-540003 | EXPENSES | 4,195 | (695) | 3,500 | -16.8% |
| 22,729 | 54,307 | 52,291 | 15135-540011 | COMPUTER EXPENSE | 57,247 | (3,947) | 53,300 | -6.9% |
| 7,000 | 9,000 | 12,000 | 15135-520004 | AUDIT - RESTRICTED | 15,000 | 3,000 | 18,000 | 20.0% |
| 91,374 | 136,973 | 134,512 | | | 148,597 | 2,193 | 150,790 | 1.5% |
| | | | | **TREASURER/COLLECTOR** | | 0 | | |
| 44,154 | 47,430 | 50,798 | 15145-500001 | SALARY OF TREAS/COLL | 53,900 | 4,020 | 57,920 | 7.5% |
| 24,434 | 25,169 | 33,129 | 15145-500002 | ASST TO TREAS/COLL | 35,626 | 2,502 | 38,128 | 7.0% |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 15145-520009 | ASST/TREAS/COLL STIPEND | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| 12,500 | 15,511 | 19,089 | 15145-510007 | PERMANENT PART TIME | 20,528 | 1,553 | 22,081 | 7.6% |
| 14,108 | 13,814 | 0 | 15145-510003 | TEMPORARY PART TIME | 0 | 0 | 0 | #DIV/0! |
| 0 | 0 | 1,943 | 15145-520010 | LOXBOX EXPENSES | 7,000 | (2,500) | 4,500 | 100.0% |
| 0 | 0 | 4,625 | 15145-520005 | TREAS/COLLECT EQUIP RENTAL | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100.0% |
| 15,748 | 17,696 | 15,308 | 15145-520006 | PROCESSING CHARGES | 17,000 | 0 | 17,000 | 0.0% |
| 0 | 7,588 | 10,000 | 15145-520020 | TAX TITLE | 23,000 | 0 | 23,000 | 0.0% |
| 5,583 | 15,562 | 8,869 | 15145-540004 | TREAS/COLLECT EXPENSES | 12,600 | (2,600) | 10,000 | -20.6% |
| 116,526 | 142,570 | 143,759 | | | 169,654 | 2,975 | 172,629 | 1.8% |
| 207,900 | 279,543 | 278,271 | | **TOTAL FINANCE DEPARTMENT** | 318,251 | 5,188 | 323,419 | 1.6% |

APPENDIX C

FISCAL YEAR 7/01/04

| ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '00 | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '01 | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '02 | ACCOUNT | ACCOUNT NAME | TOTAL APPROPRIATION FISCAL '03 | CHANGE | TOTAL RECOMMENDED FISCAL 2004 | % CHNGE FROM PRIOR |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | **TOWN CLERK** | | | | |
| 43,245 | 46,100 | 47,483 | 15161-500001 | SALARY OF TOWN CLERK | 49,333 | 1,887 | 51,220 | 3.8% |
| 26,794 | 29,294 | 31,089 | 15181-500002 | ADMINISTRATIVE ASSIST | 33,445 | 1,073 | 34,518 | 3.2% |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 15181-500020 | LONGEVITY ASST TOWN CLERK | 0 | 600 | 600 | #DIV/ |
| 1,010 | 452 | 1,000 | 15181-510003 | TEMPORARY PART TIME | 1,000 | 0 | 1,000 | 0.( |
| 4,825 | 6,373 | 5,290 | 15161-540004 | EXPENSES | 5,450 | (950) | 4,500 | -17.4 |
| 1,471 | 1,479 | 1,346 | 15181-540005 | RECORD RESTORATION | 1,500 | (750) | 750 | -50.( |
| 1,200 | 1,100 | 1,200 | 15161-520006 | ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK STIPEND | 1,200 | 0 | 1,200 | 0.( |
| 78,544 | 84,798 | 87,407 | | | 91,928 | 1,860 | 93,788 | 2.0% |
| | | | | **TOWN COUNSEL** | | | | |
| 15,250 | 20,250 | 20,250 | 15151-510001 | SALARY OF TOWN COUNSEL | 20,250 | 0 | 20,250 | 0.0% |
| 27,557 | 57,693 | 22,803 | 15151-520002 | EXPENSES | 25,000 | 0 | 25,000 | 0.0% |
| 42,807 | 77,943 | 42,853 | | | 45,250 | 0 | 45,250 | 0.0% |
| | | | | **ELECTION & REGISTRATION** | | | | |
| 956 | 858 | 1,010 | 15162-510001 | SALARIES OF REGISTRARS | 1,030 | 21 | 1,051 | 2.0% |
| 11,185 | 13,335 | 16,765 | 15162-540002 | EXPENSES | 19,950 | (1,450) | 18,500 | -7.3% |
| 12,141 | 14,193 | 17,775 | | | 20,980 | (1,429) | 19,551 | -6.8% |
| | | | | **POLICE** | | | | |
| 74,452 | 75,023 | 77,638 | 15210-500001 | SALARY OF CHIEF | 81,399 | 2,371 | 83,770 | 2.9% |
| 710,441 | 717,859 | 764,980 | 15210-500002 | WAGES OF OFFICERS | 847,519 | 16,951 | 864,470 | 2.0% |
| 30,958 | 32,701 | 33,834 | 15210-500007 | WAGES CLERK STENOGRAPHER | 36,676 | 734 | 37,410 | 2.0% |
| 21,246 | 28,715 | 27,135 | 15210-540003 | TRAINING | 39,923 | 577 | 40,500 | 1.4% |
| 25,468 | 42,723 | 43,033 | 15210-530004 | OVERTIME | 48,110 | 880 | 48,970 | 1.8% |
| 3,040 | 8,176 | 6,463 | 15210-510005 | SPECIAL INVESTIGATION | 8,009 | 141 | 8,150 | 1.8% |
| 13,032 | 13,316 | 14,995 | 15210-510006 | POLICE COURT DUTY LOCK UP | 18,483 | 367 | 18,850 | 2.0% |
| 0 | 0 | 900 | 15210-500020 | CLERK LONGEVITY | 0 | 0 | 0 | #DIV/0! |
| 36,989 | 37,852 | 37,487 | 15210-540008 | EXPENSES | 37,500 | 0 | 37,500 | 0.0% |
| 0 | 18,018 | 14,778 | 15210-520013 | POLICE RETIREMENT BENEFITS | 0 | 0 | 0 | #DIV |
| 13,863 | 18,021 | 15,993 | 15210-540010 | UNIFORMS | 16,000 | 0 | 16,000 | 0. |
| 4,912 | 4,827 | 4,873 | 15210-580011 | EQUIPMENT | 5,000 | 0 | 5,000 | 0. |
| 0 | 2,250 | 2,921 | 15210-520021 | COMPUTER R&M | 3,000 | 0 | 3,000 | 0. |
| 24,878 | 26,997 | 27,500 | 15210-580012 | CRUISER | 27,500 | 500 | 28,000 | 1.8% |
| | | | 25900-595002 | AMBULANCE REIMBURSEMENT | (110,000) | 35,000 | (75,000) | -31.8% |
| | | | | **CIVILIAN DEFENSE** | | 0 | | |
| 328 | 489 | 439 | 15291-540001 | AUXILIARY POLICE EXPENSES | 500 | 0 | 500 | 0.0% |
| 702 | 127 | 650 | 15291-540002 | AUXILIARY POLICE UNIFORMS | 750 | 0 | 750 | 0.0% |
| 1,956 | 1,968 | 1,992 | 15291-540003 | EMERGENCY SERVICES | 2,000 | 0 | 2,000 | 0.0% |
| | | | | **ANIMAL CONTROL/HARBORMASTER/DEER CONTROL** | | 0 | | |
| 0 | 2,725 | 0 | 15292-52001 | CONTRACT | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| 9,497 | 7,088 | 6,936 | 15292-510002 | PATROLLING | 13,600 | (1,400) | 12,200 | -10.3% |
| 5,308 | 3,236 | 2,178 | 15292-540003 | EXPENSES | 5,000 | 0 | 5,000 | 0.0% |
| 977,070 | 1,036,107 | 1,084,681 | | | 1,080,969 | 56,101 | 1,137,070 | 5.2% |
| | | | | **FIRE DEPARTMENT** | | | | |
| 8,811 | 8,810 | 2,326 | 15220-510001 | SALARY OF CHIEF Part Time | 0 | 0 | 0 | #DIV/0! |
| 0 | 0 | 41,277 | 15220-510000 | SALARY OF CHIEF | 64,863 | 3,978 | 68,841 | 6.1% |
| 62,529 | 84,156 | 70,373 | 15220-510002 | WAGES OF CALL FIREFIGHTERS | 65,000 | 3,000 | 68,000 | 4.8% |
| 7,670 | 8,868 | 9,823 | 15220-510004 | WAGES OF MECHANIC | 10,125 | 620 | 10,745 | 8.1% |
| 0 | 2,543 | 11,209 | 15220-530016 | OVERTIME | 10,000 | 0 | 10,000 | 0.0% |
| 70,838 | 59,742 | 57,589 | 15220-540005 | EXPENSES | 39,745 | 255 | 40,000 | 0.6% |
| 27,581 | 28,403 | 40,885 | 15220-540008 | TRAINING | 35,000 | (1,000) | 34,000 | -2.9% |
| 10,988 | 15,527 | 38,966 | 15220-510007 | STATION DUTY | 40,000 | 0 | 40,000 | 0.0% |
| 2,653 | 2,733 | 6,000 | 15220-510008 | ASSISTANT CHIEFS | 6,000 | 0 | 6,000 | 0.0% |
| 1,908 | 2,361 | 1,813 | 15220-540009 | FIRE PREVENTION | 2,000 | 0 | 2,000 | 0.0% |
| 31,000 | 0 | 0 | 15220-510015 | FIREFIGHTER OPERATOR | | 0 | 0 | #DIV/0! |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 15220-580039 | FIRE PUMPER ENG LEASE | 40,000 | 0 | 40,000 | 0.0% |
| 0 | 5,489 | 0 | 15220-510018 | ACADEMY REPLACEMENT | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 113,837 | 116,771 | 15220-500018 | FULLTIME FIRE WAGES | 127,585 | 1,020 | 128,605 | 0 |
| 221,777 | 330,469 | 397,013 | | | 440,318 | 7,873 | 448,191 | 1 |

APPENDIX C

FISCAL YEAR 7/01/04

| ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '00 | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '01 | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '02 | ACCOUNT | ACCOUNT NAME | TOTAL APPROPRIATION FISCAL '03 | CHANGE | TOTAL RECOMMENDED FISCAL 2004 | % CHNGE FROM PRIOR |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | **POLICE/FIRE STATION** | | | | |
| 22,719 | 20,516 | 20,137 | 15290-540001 | MAINTENANCE | 21,500 | 500 | 22,000 | 2.3% |
| 4,810 | 5,333 | 8,529 | 15290-520002 | CONTRACT SERVICES | 10,500 | 0 | 10,500 | 0.0% |
| 0 | 4,624 | 0 | 15290-540003 | RENOVATIONS & REPAIR | 0 | 6,600 | 6,600 | 0.0% |
| 27,529 | 30,473 | 28,668 | | | 32,000 | 7,100 | 39,100 | |
| | | | | **EMERGENCY REPORT CENTER** | | | | |
| 41,582 | 44,328 | 47,482 | 15233-500001 | SALARY OF SUPERVISOR | 47,482 | 1,919 | 49,401 | 4.0% |
| 135,533 | 158,211 | 142,098 | 15233-500002 | WAGES OF DISPATCHERS | 170,444 | 11,951 | 182,395 | 7.0% |
| 25,321 | 29,156 | 30,913 | 15233-540003 | EXPENSES | 42,322 | (2,600) | 39,722 | -6.1% |
| 202,436 | 231,693 | 220,492 | | | 260,248 | 11,270 | 271,518 | 4.3% |
| | | | | **SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES** | | | | |
| 1,500 | 1,212 | 1,125 | 15246-540001 | SALARY OF SEALER | 1,618 | 0 | 1,616 | 0.0% |
| 169 | 0 | 422 | 15246-540002 | EXPENSES | 1,000 | (500) | 500 | -50.0% |
| 1,669 | 1,212 | 1,547 | | | 2,616 | (500) | 2,116 | -19.1% |
| | | | | **INSPECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT** | | | | |
| 21,318 | 21,913 | 22,570 | 15241-510001 | SALARY OF BUILDING INSPECTOR | 23,111 | 553 | 23,664 | 2.4% |
| 28,972 | 30,235 | 32,346 | 15241-500002 | ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT | 33,671 | 795 | 34,488 | 2.4% |
| 0 | 450 | 900 | 15241-500020 | ADMIN ASST LONGEVITY | 900 | 0 | 900 | 0.0% |
| 844 | 660 | 340 | 15241-510003 | BUILDING INSP ASSISTANT | 894 | 14 | 708 | 2.0% |
| 8,429 | 10,844 | 10,802 | 15241-540008 | INSPECTIONAL SVCS EXPENSES | 10,300 | (1,300) | 9,000 | -12.8% |
| 10,477 | 10,739 | 11,061 | 15241-510005 | SALARY OF ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR | 11,281 | 228 | 11,507 | 2.0% |
| 644 | 330 | 680 | 15241-510008 | ELECTRICAL INSP ASSISTANT | 694 | 14 | 708 | 2.0% |
| 8,927 | 9,150 | 9,425 | 15242-510001 | SALARY GAS/PLUMBING INSPECTOR | 11,282 | 225 | 11,507 | 2.0% |
| 644 | 880 | 680 | 15242-510002 | GAS/PLUMBING INSPECTOR ASSISTAN | 694 | 14 | 708 | 2.0% |
| 80,055 | 84,981 | 88,804 | | | 92,627 | 541 | 93,168 | 0.6% |
| | | | | **VETERANS' BENEFITS** | | | | |
| 25,582 | 27,884 | 30,067 | 15543-520001 | ADMINISTRATION | 21,274 | 0 | 21,274 | 0.0% |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 15543-570002 | EXPENSES | 4,000 | (3,000) | 1,000 | -75.0% |
| 25,582 | 27,864 | 30,067 | | | 25,274 | (3,000) | 22,274 | -11.9% |
| 2,938,680 | 3,205,721 | 3,422,972 | | **TOTAL GENERAL TOWN GOVERNMENT** | 3,562,787 | 199,050 | 3,761,837 | 5.6% |
| | | | | **OTHER TOWN BOARDS AND COMMITTEES** | | | | |
| | | | | **FINANCE COMMITTEE** | | | | |
| 227 | 48 | 185 | 15131-540001 | EXPENSE | 350 | 0 | 350 | 0.0% |
| | | | | **ASSESSORS** | | | | |
| 2,293 | 2,351 | 2,422 | 15141-510001 | SALARY OF CHAIRMAN | 2,409 | 110 | 2,519 | 4.6% |
| 3,428 | 3,512 | 3,488 | 15141-510002 | SALARIES OF MEMBERS | 3,599 | 165 | 3,764 | 4.6% |
| 31,012 | 43,878 | 40,913 | 15141-500003 | DIRECTOR/ASSESSOR'S OFFICE | 43,428 | 3,316 | 46,742 | 7.6% |
| 0 | 450 | 0 | 15141-500020 | ADMIN ASST LONGEVITY | 0 | 0 | 0 | #DIV/0! |
| 0 | 5,593 | 0 | 15141-510010 | ADMIN ASST COMP HOURS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| 1,907 | 1,868 | 2,174 | 15141-520004 | BOARD/STAFF TRAINING | 3,000 | 0 | 3,000 | 0.0% |
| 10,092 | 24,581 | 27,147 | 15141-510005 | ADMINISTRATIVE ASSIST | 28,792 | 2,540 | 31,332 | 8.8% |
| 2,700 | 3,100 | 3,400 | 15141-520008 | COMPUTER SERVICES | 3,800 | 600 | 4,400 | 15.8% |
| 3,635 | 3,772 | 3,764 | 15141-540007 | EXPENSES | 4,050 | 0 | 4,050 | 0.0% |
| 28,338 | 26,994 | 27,804 | 15141-510008 | CONTRACT SERVICES/WAGES | 28,360 | 567 | 28,927 | 2.0% |
| | | | | CERTIFICATION R/E 5 YEARS | 0 | 8,000 | 8,000 | 9.0% |
| 81,401 | 115,879 | 111,090 | | | 117,436 | 15,298 | 132,734 | 13.0% |
| | | | | **PERSONNEL BOARD** | | | | |
| 0 | 200 | 120 | 15152-540001 | EXPENSES | 350 | 0 | 350 | 0.0% |
| | | | | **PLANNING BOARD** | | | | |
| 17,237 | 14,967 | 18,872 | 15172-510001 | COORDINATOR | 20,327 | 1,219 | 21,548 | 6.0% |
| 1,203 | 1,412 | 7,839 | 15172-510002 | CONTRACT SERVICES | 1,387 | 83 | 1,470 | 6.0% |
| 1,275 | 4,106 | 3,769 | 15172-540003 | EXPENSES | 2,850 | 0 | 2,850 | 0.0% |
| 19,715 | 20,485 | 30,480 | | | 24,564 | 1,302 | 25,868 | 5.3% |

APPENDIX C

FISCAL YEAR 7/01/04

| ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '00 | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '01 | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '02 | ACCOUNT | ACCOUNT NAME | TOTAL APPROPRIATION FISCAL '03 | CHANGE | TOTAL RECOMMENDED FISCAL 2004 | % CHNGE FROM PRIOR |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | APPEAL BOARD | | | | |
| 1,313 | 1,346 | 694 | 15173-510001 | SALARY OF CHAIRMAN | 1,415 | 28 | 1,443 | 2.0% |
| 600 | 270 | 1,229 | 15173-540002 | EXPENSES | 1,850 | 0 | 1,850 | 0.0% |
| 1,913 | 1,616 | 1,923 | | | 3,085 | 28 | 3,093 | 0.9% |
| | | | | CONSERVATION COMMISSION | | | | |
| 16,940 | 17,818 | 19,084 | 15171-510001 | COORDINATOR WAGES | 20,239 | 1,214 | 21,453 | 6 |
| 2,678 | 3,041 | 3,352 | 15171-540002 | EXPENSES | 3,425 | (645) | 2,780 | -18 |
| 5,454 | 7,878 | 220 | 15171-540004 | CHEBACCO WOODS | 1,688 | (88) | 1,800 | -4.0% |
| | | | | | 0 | 0 | | |
| 25,071 | 28,533 | 22,655 | | | 25,330 | 503 | 25,833 | 2.0% |
| | | | | BOARD OF HEALTH | | | | |
| 683 | 700 | 721 | 15511-510001 | SALARY OF CHAIRMAN | 735 | 14 | 749 | 1.9% |
| 647 | 691 | 814 | 15511-510002 | SALARIES OF MEMBERS | 830 | 17 | 847 | 2.0% |
| 32,408 | 35,475 | 34,808 | 15511-510003 | AGENT | 38,181 | 0 | 36,181 | 0.0% |
| 28,972 | 30,234 | 32,346 | 15511-500004 | ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT | 33,671 | 795 | 34,468 | 2.4% |
| 0 | 450 | 900 | 15511-500020 | ADMIN ASST LONGEVITY | 900 | 0 | 900 | 0.0% |
| 5,528 | 8,233 | 6,214 | 15511-510009 | PART TIME ADMIN ASSISTANT | 7,720 | 154 | 7,874 | 2.0% |
| 12,185 | 11,515 | 12,682 | 15511-540005 | EXPENSES | 13,550 | 0 | 13,550 | 0.0% |
| 1,888 | 1,935 | 1,993 | 15511-510006 | ANIMAL INSPECTOR WAGES | 3,500 | 0 | 3,500 | 0.0% |
| 1,630 | 1,352 | 2,298 | 15511-520007 | PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING | 3,000 | 0 | 3,000 | 0.0% |
| 0 | | | 15511-530008 | SICK LEAVE BUY BACK | | 0 | | |
| 83,938 | 88,585 | 92,771 | | | 100,087 | 980 | 101,067 | 1.0% |
| | | | | COUNCIL ON AGING | | | | |
| 4,567 | 4,355 | 5,100 | 15541-540001 | EXPENSES | 10,100 | 202 | 10,302 | 2.0% |
| 218,831 | 259,701 | 264,304 | | TOTAL OTHER BOARDS & COMMITTEES | 281,282 | 18,313 | 299,595 | 6.5% |
| | | | | LIBRARY TRUSTEES | | | | |
| | | | | LIBRARY | | | | |
| | | 14,033 | | SALARY OF LIBRARIAN | 55,620 | 641 | 56,261 | |
| | | 8,081 | | SICK TIME BUYBACK | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| | | | | SALARY OF ASSIST LIBRARIAN | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| | | | | ADMIN ASSISTANT | 27,818 | 322 | 28,140 | |
| | | | | SALARY OF CHILDREN LIBRARIAN (2) | 80,757 | 701 | 81,458 | |
| | | | | WAGES OF SUPPORT STAFF | 128,253 | 33,036 | 181,289 | |
| | | | | REFERENCE LIBRARIANS (2) | 59,744 | 689 | 60,433 | |
| | | | | BENEFITS | 106,380 | (11,792) | 94,588 | |
| | | | | WAGES OF CUSTODIAN | 18,737 | (18,737) | 0 | |
| | | | | BOOKS/PERIODICALS ETC | 94,900 | (9,325) | 85,575 | |
| | | | | EXPENSES-GENERAL | 17,400 | 3,100 | 20,500 | |
| | | | | EXPENSES-MAINTENANCE/UTILITIES | 80,500 | (7,355) | 73,145 | |
| | | | | MERRIMACK VALLEY CONSORTIUM | 32,000 | 6,000 | 38,000 | |
| | | | | SUBTOTAL JOINT LIBRARY EXPENSE | 680,109 | (720) | 679,389 | |
| | | 371,657 | | HAMILTON SHARE AT 81.42% | 419,083 | (1,802) | 417,281 | |
| | | 37,165 | | ADD: WENHAM ADMIN FEE AT 10% | 41,908 | (180) | 41,728 | |
| | | | | CREDIT RECEIPTS WENHAM | 0 | (2,274) | (2,274) | |
| 0 | 0 | 430,936 | | HAMILTON COST (JOINT LIBRARY) | 460,991 | (4,257) | 456,735 | -0.9% |

APPENDIX C

FISCAL YEAR 7/01/04

| ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '00 | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '01 | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '02 | ACCOUNT | ACCOUNT NAME | TOTAL APPROPRIATION FISCAL '03 | CHANGE | TOTAL RECOMMENDED FISCAL 2004 | % CHNGE FROM PRIOR |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | **BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS** | | | | |
| | | | | **BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS** | | | | |
| 71,924 | 74,574 | 76,812 | 15421-500003 | DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS | 78,655 | 1,874 | 80,529 | 2.4% |
| 38,776 | 39,250 | 40,040 | 15421-500004 | MECHANIC WAGES | 40,998 | 1,195 | 42,193 | 2.9% |
| 3,656 | 2,964 | 2,148 | 15421-530005 | OVERTIME WAGES | 2,500 | 0 | 2,500 | 0.0% |
| 28,972 | 30,234 | 32,346 | 15421-500006 | ADMINISTRATIVE ASSIST | 33,501 | 988 | 34,467 | 2.9% |
| 0 | 300 | 600 | 15421-500020 | ADMIN ASST LONGEVITY | 600 | 4,500 | 5,100 | 750.0% |
| 12,500 | 15,869 | 13,372 | 15421-520008 | FUEL | 16,500 | 0 | 16,500 | 0.0% |
| 15,146 | 16,654 | 14,879 | 15421-540009 | VEHICLE, EQUIP R&M, GARAGE | 16,000 | 0 | 16,000 | 0.0% |
| 7,305 | 11,554 | 11,738 | 15421-520010 | UTILITIES | 14,000 | 0 | 14,000 | 0.0% |
| 871 | 235 | 1,000 | 15421-520011 | ADVERTISING | 700 | 0 | 700 | 0.0% |
| 12,094 | 12,972 | 13,547 | 15421-540012 | EXPENSES | 15,000 | 0 | 15,000 | 0.0% |
| 5,200 | 5,200 | 4,573 | 15421-520013 | EARLY RETIREMENT INCENTIVE | 5,700 | (5,700) | 0 | -100.0% |
| 881 | 8,938 | 792 | 15421-540014 | DPW GARAGE MAINTENANCE | 1,500 | 0 | 1,500 | 0.0% |
| 85,574 | 82,110 | 84,986 | 15421-580025 | DPW CAPITAL PURCHASES | 85,000 | (27,000) | 58,000 | -31.8% |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 65450-595002 | WATER REIMBURSEMENTS TRANS | (40,280) | 0 | (40,280) | 0.0% |
| 282,701 | 298,854 | 296,833 | | | 270,374 | (24,165) | 246,209 | -8.9% |
| | | | | **SANITATION** | | | | |
| 105,000 | 107,604 | 110,300 | 15433-520001 | COLLECTION & HAULING | 125,000 | 2,000 | 127,000 | 1.8% |
| 318,418 | 418,495 | 291,058 | 15433-520002 | NESWC | 300,000 | 0 | 300,000 | 0.0% |
| 4,925 | 1,400 | 2,000 | 15433-520003 | WATER & SOIL TESTING | 1,000 | 2,000 | 3,000 | 200.0% |
| 5,560 | 5,200 | 6,000 | 15433-520004 | LEAF COLLECTION | 6,000 | 2,000 | 8,000 | 33.3% |
| 66,700 | 66,843 | 68,200 | 15433-520005 | RECYCLING | 53,000 | 1,500 | 54,500 | 2.8% |
| 1,175 | 1,468 | 2,000 | 15433-520008 | HAZARDOUS WASTE | 2,500 | 0 | 2,500 | 0.0% |
| 0 | 2,000 | 2,976 | 15433-520007 | RECYCLING ROLL OFFS | 2,000 | 2,000 | 4,000 | 100.0% |
| 501,779 | 602,810 | 480,534 | | | 489,500 | 9,500 | 499,000 | 1.9% |
| | | | | **HIGHWAY** | | | | |
| 151,052 | 178,788 | 180,710 | 15422-500001 | WAGES | 188,957 | 7,688 | 196,645 | 4.1% |
| 8,004 | 7,715 | 8,235 | 15422-530002 | OVERTIME WAGES | 8,245 | 0 | 8,245 | 0.0% |
| 7,190 | 5,777 | 5,796 | 15422-510003 | SUMMER WAGES | 7,000 | 0 | 7,000 | 0.0% |
| 5,473 | 5,500 | 4,617 | 15422-540004 | EXPENSES | 5,500 | 0 | 5,500 | 0.0% |
| 52,554 | 55,000 | 68,085 | 15422-540005 | HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE | 55,000 | 0 | 55,000 | 0.0% |
| 12,000 | 8,374 | 13,000 | 15422-540008 | TREE EXPENSE | 15,000 | (2,000) | 13,000 | -13.3% |
| 800 | 3,195 | 14,594 | 15422-580008 | DRAINAGE | 9,000 | 0 | 9,000 | 0.0% |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 15422-580027 | STREET IMPROVEMENTS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| 27,000 | 41,849 | 18,907 | 15423-530001 | SNOW REMOVAL OVERTIME | 25,000 | 0 | 25,000 | 0.0% |
| 55,000 | 103,140 | 49,101 | 15423-520002 | SNOW REMOVAL EXPENSES | 50,000 | 0 | 50,000 | 0.0% |
| 318,873 | 409,316 | 363,045 | | | 363,702 | 5,688 | 369,390 | 1.6% |
| | | | | **CEMETERY** | | | | |
| 17,710 | 17,240 | 18,283 | 15429-500001 | WAGES | 18,721 | 542 | 19,263 | 2.9% |
| 7,753 | 7,999 | 7,991 | 15429-530002 | OVERTIME WAGES | 8,000 | 0 | 8,000 | 0.0% |
| 10,512 | 10,850 | 10,218 | 15429-510003 | SEASONAL WAGES | 10,850 | 0 | 10,850 | 0.0% |
| 4,897 | 4,718 | 7,500 | 15429-540005 | EXPENSES | 7,500 | 0 | 7,500 | 0.0% |
| 3,000 | 2,385 | 2,500 | 15429-540008 | IMPROVEMENTS | 2,500 | 0 | 2,500 | 0.0% |
| | | | | REIMBURSMENT PERPETUAL CARE | 0 | (10,000) | (10,000) | #DIV/0! |
| | | | | REIMBURSMENT SALE OF LOTS | 0 | (2,000) | (2,000) | #DIV/0! |
| 43,872 | 43,192 | 46,492 | | | 47,571 | (11,458) | 36,113 | -24.1% |
| | | | | **PARKS** | | | | |
| 35,422 | 35,859 | 36,568 | 15650-500001 | WAGES | 37,442 | 1,083 | 38,525 | 2.9% |
| 5,824 | 5,795 | 5,790 | 15650-530002 | OVERTIME WAGES | 8,000 | 0 | 6,000 | 0.0% |
| 3,500 | 4,582 | 3,590 | 15650-510003 | SUMMER WAGES | 4,000 | 400 | 4,400 | 10.0% |
| 10,000 | 10,812 | 9,501 | 15650-540004 | EXPENSES | 10,000 | 0 | 10,000 | 0.0% |
| 858 | 1,000 | 1,083 | 15650-540005 | BUILDING R & M | 2,500 | 0 | 2,500 | 0.0% |
| 0 | 951 | 0 | 15650-580010 | PARK BATHROOM RENOVATIONS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| 55,402 | 58,999 | 56,530 | | | 59,942 | 1,483 | 61,425 | 2.5% |
| 1,202,627 | 1,413,171 | 1,243,435 | | **TOTAL BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS** | 1,231,089 | (18,952) | 1,212,137 | -1.5% |

APPENDIX C

FISCAL YEAR 7/01/04

| ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '00 | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '01 | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '02 | ACCOUNT | ACCOUNT NAME | TOTAL APPROPRIATION FISCAL '03 | CHANGE | TOTAL RECOMMENDED FISCAL 2004 | % CHNGE FROM PRIOR |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | DEBT EXPENSE | | | | |
| 22,000 | 0 | 90,000 | 15722-590005 | DEBT EXCLUSION (WATER FILTRATION | 90,000 | 0 | 90,000 | 0.( |
| | | 124,000 | 15722-590008 | DEBT EXCLUSION (JOINT LIBRARY) | 120,000 | 0 | 120,000 | 0.( |
| | | 205,754 | 15722-590001 | DEBT INTEREST | 192,255 | (12,492) | 179,763 | -6.5 |
| | | 66,000 | 15722-590007 | DEBT EXCLUSION (MOULTON ST BRIDG | 65,000 | (5,000) | 60,000 | -7. |
| | | 1,250 | 15722-590002 | BORROWING DISCLOSURE | 1,000 | 250 | 1,250 | 25.( |
| 22,000 | 0 | 487,004 | | TOTAL DEBT EXPENSE | 468,255 | (17,242) | 451,013 | -3.7% |
| 113,335 | 0 | 0 | | SPECIAL TOWN MEETING | | | | |
| 4,493,474 | 4,878,593 | 5,848,652 | | TOTAL TOWN OPERATING BUDGET | 6,004,404 | 178,913 | 6,181,317 | 2.9% |
| | | | | EDUCATION | | | | |
| | | | | EDUCATION | | | | |
| 8,152,196 | 8,471,336 | 9,671,950 | 15300-520001 | H-W OPERATING BUDGET | 10,140,578 | 112,537 | 10,253,115 | 1.1% |
| 447,987 | 443,553 | 436,267 | 15300-590004 | H-W DEBT SERVICE - NEW PROJECT | 434,891 | (17,893) | 418,798 | -4.1% |
| 79,987 | 79,785 | 76,715 | 15300-590002 | H-W DEBT SERVICE - EXISTING | 79,160 | (417) | 78,743 | -0.5% |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 15300-590003 | H-W DEBT SERVICE-BOILER | 120,000 | (1,903) | 118,097 | -1.6% |
| 8,680,130 | 8,994,674 | 10,184,932 | | EDUCATION | 10,774,429 | 92,324 | 10,886,753 | 0.86% |
| 13,173,603 | 13,873,267 | 18,033,584 | | TOTAL HAMILTON OPERATING BUDGET | 16,778,833 | 269,237 | 17,048,070 | 1.60% |

**********

**ARTICLE 2-3**
**Water Enterprise Budget**

Moderator mentioned there were a few corrections on the Water Enterprise Budget, which appears as Appendix D to the 2003 Warrant Book.

Moderator asked all to turn to Appendix D, page 22 of the warrant book and change Water Enterprise Capital Project from $243,000 to $190,000. Then, the next line down, change Retained Earning Transfer from (279,844) to (36,844).

There being no questions, Moderator called for the motion.

Moved by Paul Ricker, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, duly seconded.

Moved that the Town approve the Water Enterprise Budget set forth in Appendix D to the 2003 Warrant Book, with the corrections as read by the Moderator.

Mr. Ricker explained the money taken out in the correction will be coming up later on the town meeting floor.

Moderator announced the Finance Director states there is another correction and that is on the Water Enterprise Capital Project, since that is going to be voted on separately, instead of $190,000 that should become "0". That is an amendment to the motion, so need a motion and second.

Moved by Paul Ricker, duly seconded to change the Water Enterprise Capital Project from $190,000 to "0".

Moderator called for vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

## APPENDIX D

FISCAL YEAR 7/01/04

| ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '00 | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '01 | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '02 | ACCOUNT | ACCOUNT NAME | TOTAL APPROPRIATION FISCAL '03 | CHANGE | TOTAL RECOMMENDED FISCAL 2004 | % CHNGE FROM PRIOR |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | WATER ENTERPRISE FUND | | | | |
| 772,510 | 702,847 | 767,915 | 64450-421000 | INCOME | 781,000 | (40,000) | 741,000 | |
| 19,029 | 26,838 | | 64450-422500 | LIEN REVENUE | 12,000 | (12,000) | 0 | |
| 13,828 | 10,800 | 4,735 | 64450-484000 | MISCELLANEOUS INCOME | 12,000 | (10,000) | 2,000 | |
| | 3,822 | 953 | 84450-482000 | INTEREST INCOME | 0 | 503 | 503 | |
| 407 | | | 64450-482500 | BAN PREMIUM | 500 | (500) | 0 | |
| 805,772 | 744,107 | 773,803 | | | 805,500 | (61,997) | 743,503 | |
| 110,385 | 140,072 | 128,778 | 85450-500001 | WAGES | 145,354 | 8,725 | 154,079 | |
| 28,721 | 30,234 | 32,220 | 65450-500003 | ADMINISTRATIVE ASST. | 33,501 | 988 | 34,467 | |
| 0 | 300 | 600 | 65450-500020 | ADMIN ASST LONGEVITY | 600 | 2,100 | 2,700 | |
| 26,992 | 9,871 | 9,288 | 65450-520008 | CONTRACT SERVICES | 10,000 | 0 | 10,000 | |
| 44,787 | 77,915 | 62,998 | 65450-520009 | UTILITIES | 60,000 | 0 | 60,000 | |
| 5,925 | 4,362 | 5,702 | 65450-520010 | FUEL/VEHICLE R & M | 6,000 | 0 | 6,000 | |
| 25,200 | 61,681 | 41,138 | 65450-530002 | OVERTIME | 37,500 | 0 | 37,500 | |
| 208 | 343 | 100 | 65450-530005 | CLERICAL OVERTIME | 700 | 0 | 700 | |
| 34,757 | 54,952 | 29,983 | 65450-540011 | WELL MAINTENANCE | 20,000 | 0 | 20,000 | |
| 15,997 | 17,562 | 23,000 | 65450-540012 | EXPENSES | 18,000 | 0 | 18,000 | |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 65450-540020 | WATER TREATMENT OPERATING | 50,000 | 0 | 50,000 | |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 65450-570022 | WATER EMERGENCY FUND | 30,000 | 20,000 | 50,000 | |
| 41,714 | 39,893 | 49,594 | 65450-580008 | SYSTEM MAINTENANCE | 40,000 | 0 | 40,000 | |
| 3,550 | 2,893 | 2,381 | 65450-580015 | METERS | 3,000 | 0 | 3,000 | |
| 60,000 | 206,798 | 184,378 | 65450-580023 | DEBT SVC/BORROW COSTS FILTRATIO | 179,425 | (4,859) | 174,568 | |
| 0 | 119,335 | 119,335 | 65450-590001 | GENERAL FUND TRANSFERS | 119,335 | 0 | 119,335 | |
| 0 | 16,333 | 93,198 | 65450-580016 | WATER ENT CAPITAL PROJ | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| | | | | RETAINED EARNINGS TRANSFER | 0 | (36,844) | (36,844) | |
| 398,234 | 782,522 | 782,689 | | | 753,415 | (9,912) | 743,503 | |
| 407,538 | (38,415) | (9,088) | | NET OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) | 52,085 | (52,085) | 0 | |

**********

**ARTICLE 2-4**
**Annual Financial Actions**

Moderator did not read the article but called on Laurie Wilson to read the motion.

Moved by Laurie Wilson, duly seconded that the Town authorize the following actions:

A. Raise and appropriate $110,000 for the Finance and Advisory Committee's ***Reserve Account***;
B. Transfer $2,000 from the ***Cemetery Sale of Lots and Graves*** Account to be used for Cemetery purposes;
C. Transfer $10,000 from the ***Cemetery Perpetual Care*** Account to be used for Cemetery purposes;
D. Transfer the interest accrued through June 30, 2003 from the ***Clark Property Account*** to the Conservation Fund;
E. To transfer $75,000 from the ***Ambulance Receipts*** Account to offset the Police Department budget;
F. To appropriate the local share of fees (not tot exceed $2,000) collected under the Wetlands Protection Act and deposited in the ***Wetlands Protection Fund*** to be used for conservation purposes by the Conservation Commission;
G. Reauthorize the ***Compost Bin Revolving Fund*** and the ***Recreation Revolving Fund*** as required by G.L., Ch. 44, Sec. 53E1/2 and Sec. 53D;
H. Appropriate $129,341 made available under G.L., Ch. 90 for reconstruction and improvements of ***town streets***; and
I. To authorize the use of estimated receipts from ambulance user fees to offset the operating costs of the ***town ambulance*** pursuant to G.L., Ch. 44, Sec. 53E.

There being no further discussion, Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

**ARTICLE 2-5**
**Elder Tax Relief I**

Moved by Robert Trussell, Chairman of the Board of Assessors, that the Town accept the provision of G.L. Ch 59, Sec.5 last paragraph, to increase the annual exemption pursuant to clause Seventeenth D by an amount equal to 100% of the cost of living adjustment as determined by the Consumer Price Index for the prior year, effective commencing in FY'04, and accept the provisions of G.L. Ch. 59, Sec. 5, clause Seventeenth E providing for an annual increase in the amount of the real and personal property subject to the exemption pursuant to clause Seventeenth D.

Mr. Trussell explained that the first article, they have two tonight, deals with people over 70 and widows. There is a small exemption they get with asset limits of $40,000 and this would be a cost of living increase which would go on their limit. Each year we would come back, unlike the second article, for the percentage up to 100 %.

Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

**ARTICLE 2-6**
**Elder Tax Relief II**

Moved by Robert Trussell, duly seconded that the Town accept the provisions of G.L. Ch.59, Sec 5, clause Forty-first C, second sentence to increase the amount of the tax exemption by 100% to a maximum of $1,000; to increase the gross receipts limits amounts contained in subclause (B) of the first sentence of Forty-first C whenever they appear from $13,000 to $20,000 and from $15,000 to $30,000; and to increase the whole estate limits amounts contained in subclause (C ) of the first sentence of Forty-first C whenever they appear from $28,000 to $40,000 and from $30,000 to $55,000. I further move that the Town accept the

provisions of G.L. Ch.59, Sec. 5, clause Forty-first D providing for an annual increase in the income and asset limits subject to the exemption pursuant to clause Forty-first C. I further move that all of the above-mentioned adjustments be effective starting in FY'04.

Mr. Trussell explained the increase from $500 to $1,000, which 19 people are under now, the cap allowed is up to 27 people. The Selectmen and Finance Committee are not opposed to it and two of the Assessors are in the Senior category. We are going for the full limit the State will allow, except the age will remain at 70.

There being no discussion, Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

**ARTICLE 2-7**
**School Operating Budget Override Question 2**

Moved by Nancy Morse, chairman of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee, duly seconded, that the Town appropriate $1,336,787 to be raised contingent upon the passage of a referendum question pursuant to G.L. Ch.59, Sec.21C(g), and also contingent upon the Town of Wenham appropriating its proportionate share, for Hamilton's share of the operating budget of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District, as voted by the School Committee on March 31, 2003, such referendum question to be voted upon by ballot at the Annual Town Election to be held on May 15, 2003 at the Winthrop School from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.. The ballot question text is set forth in Appendix A, Question 2 of this Warrant, ad to incorporated herein by reference.

Mrs. Morse introduce the new Superintendent, Marinel McGrath, to speak on the article.

Ms. McGrath gave a lengthy explanation why the school is coming before the Town with this override. Thanked everyone for listening and asked for support.

Moderator then announced this appropriation will be added to the school department budget amount appropriated in Article 2-2.

Lyman Stookey, finance Committee, spoke in great length in favor of the school override.

Much discussion followed both pro and con. Getting very heated at times, at which time Moderator called for the vote, after which he noted that this amount would be added to the amount just appropriated in the budget.

Called for a voice vote, could not determine the vote; then asked all in favor to hold up their voting cards and then all the "nays" to hold up their cards. Moderator checked with the overflow room, then announced the motion passes.

**MOTION PASSES: Determined by Moderator**

**********

**ARTICLE 2-8**
**Elder/Handicap Van**

Moved by Paul Ricker, duly seconded that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a joint services agreement with the Town of Wenham for the provision of transportation services to the senior and handicap populations of the combined communities and further to raise and appropriate $22,000 for Hamilton's share of the funds needed to acquire, retrofit and operate the van, provided that Wenham appropriates its share.

Mr. Ricker explained this is an article that both Council on Aging of Hamilton and Wenham have been working on for the past year. A grant has become available and there is a van earmarked for Hamilton and

Wenham. This article allows the Selectmen to enter into an agreement with the Town of Wenham. Feels there is a need for the two towns and its seniors and asked that all support this article.

There being no further questions or discussions the Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

**ARICLE 2-9**
**Appropriation to the Stabilization Fund**

Moved by Laurie Wilson, duly seconded that the Town raise and appropriate $100,000 to the Stabilization Fund.

There being no further questions or discussion the Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

*********

**ARTICLE 2-10**
**No. Shore Regional Vocational School District**

First Motion of David Ketcham, Hamilton's representative on the NSRVSD school committee, duly seconded that the Town approve the $7,670,013 gross operating and maintenance budget of the North Shore Regional Vocational School District.

Mr. Bowler explained the Selectmen wished to show their dissatisfaction with the budget due to the fact the total assessment was close to tripled and the per pupil assessment doubled. They certainly don't want to jeopardize approving our share of the budget so that our students can go to the Voc Tech. Mr. Bowler continued to explain it was the understanding of the Selectmen that this article would be split in two so that we could disapprove the budget but approve the Town's share. He was surprised to hear Mr. Ketcham call for us to approve.

Mr. Ketcham stated there are 16 communities in the Regional Vocational District and there is a clause in the agreement that 2/3 of the communities can object and that is what they are hanging their statement on. We are talking about an increase of 1.3%. We talked awhile ago about our Regional district, Hamilton-Wenham, getting a 20% decrease from the State, the Regional Vocational, State Aid, Chapter 70- was dropped 49%. My consensus is we are getting a bargain.

Laurie Wilson, Finance Committee Chairman, stated last year our allowance was $47,000 this year it is $147,000. We know there are cuts as in our own Regional School. Even with an increase in students to 9, we are looking at a per pupil cost of $14,000. We are not any way near that per student in Hamilton/Wenham. We found out too late and cannot do anything about it now but will have to look at it next year.

There being no further questions or discussion, Moderator called for the vote.

Could not make a determination on the Voice Vote, called for a Hand Vote. Moderator then determined the motion passes.

**MOTION PASSES: Per determination of Moderator**

Moderator called for the second motion.

Moved by David Ketcham, duly seconded that the Town raise and appropriate $147,740 for the Town's assessment from the NSRVSD.

Mr. Ketcham explained this represents the costs for the nine students we send to the Regional Vocational.

Mr. Charles Cardini spoke in favor of passing this article.

There being no further questions or discussion, Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

***Moderatorn noted it was 10:00 pm and felt if we really hold on the work it is feasible to finish up tonight but the call is up to the voters. If no objection requested to go until the next half hour and if there is a long way to go could adjourn until Wednesday night. Audience agreed. Also noted the over flow people in the Music Room have now rejoined the main group.***

**********

**ARTICLE 2-11**
**Call Firefighter/ Reserve Police Death/Total Disability Benefit**

Moved by Dan Ellison, of the Fire Department, duly seconded that the Town appropriate $15,000 to provide for health or benefit insurance for families of call firefighters and reserve police killed or disabled in the line of duty.

Mr. Ellison explained they have been working on this for five years to study what benefits they had on the Call Fire Department. Found out they have Federal Death Benefits, State Death Benefit, a Town Insurance Benefit, but do not have anything for their families if they cannot provide health insurance. They are asking the Town to provide health insurance if any Call Fireman, Police Officer or Reserve Officer is killed or disabled. Looking for the Town's support and will continue to serve no matter which way the vote goes.

After further discussion both pro and con, Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

**ARTICLE 3-1**
**Street Improvements Capital Exclusion Question 1**

Moved by Paul Ricker, duly seconded that the Town appropriate $188,000 contingent upon the passage of a referendum question pursuant to G.L., Ch. 59, Sec. 21C (I ½ ), for street improvements and any related sidewalk improvements during the eleventh year of a twelve-year street improvement plan; *such referendum question to be voted upon by ballot at the Annual Town Election to be held on May 15, 2003 at the Winthrop School from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; the ballot question is set forth in Appendix A, Question 1, of this Warrant, and is incorporated herein by reference.*

Mr. Ricker gave explanation of the Article. Finance committee had requested the amount be lowered but the Selectmen felt it should be the same as past years and asked the citizens support at the ballot. Noted there are only two more years left on the plan and after that, hope to have a maintenance plan in place.

Lengthy discussion followed by Finance Committee and concerned citizens, after which the Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**APPENDIX A**

**Ballot Question 1**

"Shall the town of Hamilton be allowed to asses an additional $188,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for street improvements during the eleventh year of a twelve year plan for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2003?"

**********

***Moderator noted it was 10:30 pm and there were about 20 articles left to go and didn't think it could be finished by 11:00 pm.***

Motion made by Ann Smith, Old Cart Road, duly seconded to adjourn.

**VOICE VOTE:** **Motion to adjourn passes**

***Moderator reminded all to come back on Wednesday night as we need a quorum to complete the business. Adjourned the Meeting to Wednesday, May 7, 2003 at the Miles River Middle School.***

**A TRUE COPY:** **ATTEST:**

Theresa M. Fanning

**Theresa M. Fanning, CMC – Town Clerk**

# TOWN OF HAMILTON
# ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Held
Monday, May 5, 2003
At
Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School

## Adjourned Session
## Held
## Wednesday, May 7, 2003
## At
## Miles River Middle School

**********

Moderator opened the second session of the Hamilton Annual Town Meeting with a quorum of 176 being present at 8:04 PM.

Moderator announced the tellers for the evening:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Robert Poole, Asst. Moderator /Chief Teller | -- | 56B Moynihan Road |
| Robert Nyland | -- | 118 Woodbury Street |
| Larry Sargent | -- | 16 Ricker Circle |
| Bill Bartlett | -- | 40 Sagamore Street |
| Jayne O'Neill | -- | 25 Bridge Street |

Proceeded to Articles:

**ARTICLE 3-2** **Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund By-law**

Moderator: To see if the Town will adopt a Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund By-law, to be known as Chapter XXVII of the Town By-law pursuant to G.L., Ch. 114, Sec. 19, for the preservation, care, improvement or embellishment of the cemetery, its infrastructure, monuments and markers for perpetuity, or take any other action thereon, or relative thereto.

Moved by David Neill, duly seconded, to take **NO ACTION** on this article.

David Neill explained this is not necessary due to the fact it is covered under State Statute.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**
**(To take NO ACTION)**

**********

**ARTICLE 3-3**

Moderator: To see if the Town will adopt an Irrigation/Outside Water Use By-law, to be known as Chapter XXVI of the Town By-laws, to regulate outside irrigation and water usage, or take any other action thereon, or relative thereto. (Appendix F in Warrant Book)

Moved by Paul Ricker, duly seconded, that the Town take **NO ACTION** on this article.

Mr. Ricker explained they will be working with DEP on this Article.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**
**(To take NO ACTION)**

**********

**ARTICLE 3-4**
**Easements**

Moved by David Neill, duly seconded, that the Town authorize the Selectmen to obtain easements for landscaping at the MBTA Train Station.

After explanation by David Neill and Candy Wheeler with discussion, Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY**

**********

**ARTICLE 3-5**
**Water Treatment Plant Security And Upgrades**

Moved by Bill Bowler, duly seconded, that the Town appropriate $50,000 from Water Enterprise Retained Earnings to offset costs incurred in fiscal year 2003 and projected for fiscal year 2004 for well maintenance, security measures and electrical upgrades.

Mr. Bowler explained this does not come from tax dollars, just a transfer.

There being no questions or discussion, Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

**ARTICLE 3-6**
**Plateau Well**

Moved by Paul Ricker, duly seconded, that the Town appropriate $190,000 from Water Retained Earnings to pay all costs associated with the construction, engineering and permitting of the so-called "Plateau Well", located in the Idlewood well field.

There being no questions, Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

**ARTICLE 3-7**
**Plumbing Fixtures At Patton Park**

Moderator: To see if the Town will appropriate a sum of money to replace plumbing fixtures in the girls and boys rooms within the bathhouse at the pool and the unisex facility near the baseball fields at Patton Park, said sum to be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, appropriation from the Stabilization Fund, or otherwise, or take any other action thereon, or relative thereto.

Moved by Bill Bowler, duly seconded, that the Town take **NO ACTION** on this article.

Mr. Bowler explained this would be taken up at a future time.

There being no further discussion, Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**
**(To take NO ACTION)**

**********

**ARTICLE 3-8**
**New Trash Contract**

Moved by David Neill, duly seconded, that the Town authorize the Selectmen to sign a 5-year contract with Wheelabrator Incorporated for trash disposal.

Mr. Neill explained we are near the end of our 20 year contract and with this new contract we will be paying ½ of what we were paying per ton.

There being no further questions or discussion, the Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

ARTICLE 3-9
**Land Acquisition**

*Reauires 2/3 Vote*

Moved by Paul Ricker, duly seconded that the Town authorize the Selectmen to take by eminent domain or to acquire by purchase, grant, gift or otherwise, fee, easement or other interests in property shown as Parcels 1 and 2, Map 70, of the Hamilton Assessors Maps and further, to authorize the Selectmen to accept easement(s) across property abutting these parcels.

Moderator announced because this is the acquisition of land this article requires a 2/3 vote.

There being no questions or discussion, Moderator call for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY**

**********

**ARTICLE 4-1**
**Public Safety Complex Feasibility Study**

*Requires 2/3 Vote*

Moved by Kalil Boghdan, Chairman of the Public Safety Building Committee, duly seconded, that the Town appropriate $35,000 from the Stabilization Fund for a feasibility study and preliminary design for a Public Safety Complex, based on approval by the Selectmen, with advice From the Finance and Advisory Committee, of a concept recommended by the Public Safety Building Committee.

After very lengthy discussion the Moderator announced this article requires a 2/3 vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY**

**********

**ARTICLE 4-2**
**Replace Town Hall Septic System**

*Requires a 2/3*

Moved by Bill Bowler, duly seconded that the Town appropriate $40,000 from the Stabilization Fund for the replacement of Town Hall septic system.

There were no questions or discussions and Moderator again announced this requires a 2/3 vote and called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY**

**********

**ARTICLE 4-3**
**Computerized Mapping System**

Moved by Peter Clark, Planning Board , duly seconded that the Town raise and appropriate $9,500 for the acquisition of software and programming for a computerized mapping system for use by town departments.

Mr. Clark explained that years ago there were no maps in the Town Hall but we've come a long way. The State now has an enormous data base which we can down load if you have a program called Art View. This $9,000 is to purchase Art View for use by the various departments. Continued on to explain the various uses that would be available to the many departments. Continued on to explain the various uses that would be available to the many departments. Also found out there are five or six ace people that understand how to use the software and can carry on the work, that we pay $30,000 to $40,000 per year for consultants for this $9,000 expenditure.

After further discussion, Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

**ARTICLE 4-4**
**Master Plan Final Phase**

Moved by Peter Clark, duly seconded, that the Town raise and appropriate $30,000 to be expended by the Planning Board to complete the Phase III Implementation of a comprehensive master plan for the Town of Hamilton.

Mr. Clark explained the money would be used for the changing of by-laws, changing committee assignments and trying to implement the many ideas we have. There will be hearings in the fall about the master plan and then as we finalize that the money will be used, probably after November. Suggested people check the web site.

After further discussion, Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

**ARTICLE 4-5**
**Care of Memorials And Antiquities**

Moderator: To see if the Town will transfer a sum of money from the Stabilization fund for the continued restoration, repair, improvement and care of Town memorials and antiquities or take any action thereon, or Relative thereto.

Moved by David Neill, duly seconded, that the Town take NO ACTION on this Article.

Moderator called for vote to take NO ACTION.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**
**(to take NO ACTION)**

**********

**ATRICLE 4-6**
**Miles River Restoration Matching Grant**

Moderator: To see if the Town will appropriate a sum of money for the Town's share of a multi-town planning grant to do preliminary mapping and engineering relating to the restoration of the Miles River, contingent upon other participating communities funding their shares, said sum to be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, appropriation from the Stabilization fund, or otherwise, or take any other action thereon, or relative thereto.

Moved by John Hamilton, Conservation Commission members, duly seconded, that the Town take NO ACTION on this article.

Moderator called for vote to take NO ACTION.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**
**(to take NO ACTION)**

**********

**ARTICLE 4-7**
**Petition to the Legislature**

Moved by Bill Bowler, duly seconded, that the Town authorize the Selectmen to petition the Legislature to allow the release of a small strip of Town-owned land off Pine Tree Drive from its designation as "water supply land," as required by Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution; provided that the Legislature may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objective of this petition.

Mr. Bowler explained this has been an ongoing problem with a neighbors swimming pool on Town-owned land. Town feels it is not detrimental to the water supply.

Moderator called for vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY**

**********

**ARTICLE 4-8**
**Citizens Petition Zoning By-Law Amendment**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Hamilton Zoning By-law Section V., Use Regulations, Subsection A., Permitted Uses, 9.b. to delete the words "on lots not less than 80,000 sq. feet in area;" Subsection 9.b. will then read as follows:

9. Accessory uses on the same lot with and customarily incidental to a permitted main use on the same premises, and including but not limited to:

b. activities associated with agriculture, horticulture and floriculture, such as barns, private stables, and shelters, and other farm buildings and including building for keeping animals and poultry, duly licensed by the Board of Health, for occupant's use only; provided that no such accessory farm building, barn or shelter shall be nearer than (50) feet to any lot line.

Moved by Sue McLaughlin, duly seconded, that the Town take NO ACTION on this Article.

Sue explained they are still working on the wording of this By-Law.

There being no further discussion, Moderator called for the vote to take NO ACTION.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES (to take NO ACTION)**

**********

**ARTICLE 4-9**
**Zoning By-law Amendment**

Moved by Greg Haladyna, Planning Board member, duly seconded that the Town amend the Zoning By-law, Section V.A., II.e.l.a.7 to change the procedure for the renewal of a special permit for an apartment substituting the language set forth in Appendix G to the Warrant Book.

Mr. Haladyna explained this was a petition brought by the Zoning Board of Appeals to streamline the process by which someone who has an in-law apartment under out current Zoning By-laws can re-do it. Continued on to explain the process and how it would change.

Moderator announced, as an amendment to the Zoning By-law this requires a 2/3 vote, then called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY**

## APPENDIX G

Amended Zoning By-law Section V, Subsection A., ll.e.l.a.7

Renewal of the special permit shall take place every four (4) years from the date of issuance of this Special Permit and upon change of ownership or tenants. Renewal of the Special Permit will require an inspection by the Building Inspector and a written certification by the owner and Building Inspector, verifying that the terms of the Special Permit and the Zoning by-law are being met. The Building Inspector shall verify that all means of access an egress have been maintained, and that there has been no change in the occupancy, design or dimensional standards under Section V.A.ll.e.l.b. below.

**********

**ARTICLE 4-10**
**Lincoln Avenue Land**

*Requires 2/3 Vote*

Moved by David Neill, duly seconded, that the Town authorize the Selectmen to sell or restrict a parcel of Town owned land on Lincoln Avenue.

David Neill requested Candy Wheeler be recognized to explain. Candy explained this is a small strip of land that is of no use to the Town, would sell it to an abutter.

Moderator explained this would require a 2/3 vote, called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY**

**********

**ARTICLE 4-11**
**Off Chebacco Road Land**

Moved by Paul Ricker, duly seconded that the Town authorize the Selectmen to sell or restrict a parcel of Town owned land near Chebacco Road.

Mr. Ricker explained this is a couple of parcels of land that is land locked and could be used for a well for the Town.

Moderator explained this also needs a 2/3 vote, and called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY**

**********

**ARTICLE 4-12**
**Police Mutual Aid Agreements**

Moved by Walter Cullen, duly seconded, that the Town accept the provisions of G.L., Ch, 40, Sec. 8G.

Chief Cullen explained that currently we work under mutual aid that is outdated. Explained the new system under Ch. 40, Sec. 8G.

There being no questions or discussion, Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

**ARTICLE 5-1**
**Free Cash Application**

Moved by Laurie Wilson, Chairman Finance Committee, duly seconded, that the Town appropriate and authorize the Assessors to use $689,322 of available certified free cash to reduce the tax rate for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2003.

Laurie explained this is done every year at the end of the Warrant to use free cash to reduce the tax rate.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

There being no further Articles or new business, the Moderator recessed the Annual Town Meeting until May 15, 2003 at 7:00 pm at the Winthrop School at which time we will hold the Annual Town Election.

Meeting recessed at 9:20 pm

**A TRUE COPY: ATTEST:**

Theresa M. Fanning

**Theresa M. Fanning, CMC – Town Clerk**

# TOWN OF HAMILTON

## ANNUAL TOWN / SCHOOL ELECTION

## HELD

## THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2003

## AT

## WINTHROP SCHOOL, HAMILTON, MA

**********

The polls were opened at 7:00 AM by Theresa M. Fanning, Town Clerk.

There were 2,705 votes cast as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Precinct 1 | 1,032 |
| Precinct 2 | 1,026 |
| Precinct 3 | 647 |

Results as follows:

| Candidate Name | Prec. 1 | Prec. 2 | Prec. 3 | TOTALS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Moderator** | | | | |
| 1 Year --- Vote for ONE | | | | |
| Blanks | 233 | 205 | 134 | 572 |
| Bruce C. Ramsey | 795 | 813 | 512 | 2120 |
| Write-ins | 4 | 8 | 1 | 13 |
| **Selectman** | | | | |
| 3 Years --- Vote for ONE | | | | |
| Blanks | 72 | 57 | 53 | 182 |
| Michael D. Abbott | 377 | 452 | 260 | 1089 |
| James E. Bryant | 582 | 517 | 333 | 1432 |
| Write-ins | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| **Assessor** | | | | |
| 3 Years --- Vote for ONE | | | | |
| Blanks | 317 | 284 | 187 | 788 |
| Steven G. Ozahowski | 713 | 740 | 459 | 1912 |
| Write-ins | 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| **Planning Board** | | | | |
| 5 Years --- Vote for TWO | | | | |
| Blanks | 814 | 712 | 432 | 1958 |
| Frederick G. Mitchell | 489 | 559 | 336 | 1384 |
| Marc I. Johnson | 436 | 473 | 326 | 1235 |
| Robert W. McKean | 322 | 308 | 199 | 829 |
| Write-ins | 3 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| **H-W Joint Library Trustee** | | | | |
| 3 Years --- Vote for TWO | | | | |
| Blanks | 577 | 578 | 375 | 1530 |
| Annette V. Janes | 831 | 803 | 497 | 2131 |
| Elizabeth M. Stanton | 653 | 666 | 419 | 1738 |
| Write-ins | 3 | 5 | 3 | 11 |

**H-W Regional School District Committee**

| 3 Years --- Vote for TWO | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Blanks | 1324 | 1128 | 707 | 3159 |
| Elaine M. Carey | 561 | 620 | 394 | 1575 |
| Nancy A. Morse | 557 | 621 | 394 | 1572 |
| William T. Patten | 643 | 694 | 436 | 1773 |
| Write-ins | 11 | 15 | 10 | 36 |

**Ballot Question #1 Street**

"Shall the Townof Hamilton be allowed to assess an additional $188,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for street improvements during the eleventh year of a twelve year plan for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2003?"

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Blanks | 18 | 10 | 13 | 41 |
| Yes | 533 | 616 | 369 | 1518 |
| No | 481 | 400 | 265 | 1146 |

**Ballot Question #2 School**

"Shall the Town of Hamilton be allowed to assess an additional $1,336,787 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of funding Hamilton's apportioned share of the net operating cost of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2003?"

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Blanks | 5 | 1 | 2 | 8 |
| Yes | 365 | 463 | 301 | 1129 |
| No | 662 | 562 | 344 | 1568 |

The polls were closed at 8:00 pm. Results were announced by Bruce Ramsey, Town Moderator at 8:30pm

A TRUE COPY: ATTEST:

Theresa M. Fanning

Theresa M. Fanning, CMC – Town Clerk

# TOWN OF HAMILTON
# SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
## Held
## Tuesday, June 17, 2003
## At
## Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School

At the close of registration June 6, 2003 there were 5,550 registered voters.

Moderator called the meeting to order with the warrant being properly served and a quorum being present.

Asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Moderator declared a quorum being present (150) and the warrant returned showing it had been properly served, opened the Special Town Meeting at 7:30 PM with 522 registered voters checked present.

Precinct 1 -- 156
Precinct 2 -- 231
Precinct 3 -- 135

Tellers appointed by the Moderator, and duly sworn were:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Robert Poole, Captain | -- | 56B Moynihan Road |
| Kalil Boghdan | -- | 12 School Street |
| Nick Civitarese | -- | 92 Highland Street |
| Walter Leszczynski | -- | 10 Honeysuckle Road |
| Ervin Fraser | -- | 37 Martel Road |

Moderator continued with the procedures and rules of the meeting. Continued on to explain the Rules of Order which, according to the Town By-Laws, and covered by Town Meeting Time a handbook of parliamentary law. Explained to speakers that they should keep their remarks to five minutes and will be reminded, by the Moderator, when the time is up.

Also explained the procedure for reconsideration of an article.

Asked all to turn off their cell phones.

If meeting does not complete action tonight the meeting will be adjourned to Wednesday at 7:30 PM at the same location.

There being no further announcements, the Moderator introduced the people on the stage and at the head table.

Proceeded with the warrant:

**ARTICLE 1-1**
**School Operating Budget Override Question 1**

Moved by Paul Ricker, Selectmen, duly seconded that the Town appropriate $884,447 to be raised contingent upon the passage of a referendum question pursuant to G.L. Ch. 59. Sec 21C(g), and also contingent upon the Town of Wenham appropriating its proportionate share, for Hamilton's share of the operating budget of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School district, as voted by the School Committee on May 22, 2003. Such referendum question to be voted upon by ballot at the Special Town Election to be held on June 27, 2003 at the Winthrop School from 7 AM to 8 PM. The ballot question text is set forth in Appendix A, Question 1 of this Warrant, and is incorporated herein by reference.

## APPENDIX A

**Question 1** Shall the Town of Hamilton be allowed to assess an additional $884,447 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of funding Hamilton's apportioned share of the net operating cost of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2003?

Mr. Ricker gave lengthy explanation as to why the Selectmen and Finance Committee are in favor of this override.

Elaine Carey of the School Committee thanked all for attending the meeting and requested that Marinel McGrath, Superintendent of Schools be allowed to speak.

Request granted by Moderator.

Marinel McGrath also thanked everyone for coming back for this second town meeting. Continued on to explain why this override is imperative for the schools for the next fiscal year. Also speaking (both pro) were: James Bryant, Selectmen and Tom Rogers, Sagamore Street.

There being no further discussion, Moderator explained the voting process on this article.

This appropriation will be added to the school department budget amount appropriated at the Annual Town Meeting under Article 2-2.

After re-reading the motion, Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

***Moderator stated that it is unusual to have voting on a Friday at the Winthrop School and we understand it will conflict with travel plans, once school is out and there has been some demand for absentee ballots. He asked the town Clerk, Mimi Fanning, to explain the procedure of absentee balloting.***

***Town Clerk, Theresa Fanning, explained the procedure and stated if there were any questions to feel free to call the office, the Moderator continued with the next article.***

**********

**ARICLE 1-2**
**Acquisition for Water Supply Property**

Moved by James Bryant, Selectman, duly seconded, that the town appropriate $44,600 from the stabilization fund to fund the acquisition by eminent domain of fee, easement or other interests in property shown as Parcels 1 and 2, Map 70 of the Hamilton Assessors Maps.

***Requires 2/3 Vote***

Mr. Bryant went on to explain the reason for the Article is DEP is asking all who draw water from the Ipswich Watershed to come up with a plan to help the distressed Watershed. Mr. Bryant explained this piece of unclaimed land has been tested for water and is a good source. The land could be taken by tax title but that would take about a year. If we proceed this way we would be ahead of the game.

There being no further questions, Moderator announced this would require a 2/3 vote and called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES by 2/3rds Vote**
**Declared by Moderator**

**********

**ARTICLE 1-3**
**Petition Legislator Health/Benefit Insurance Firefighters and Reserve Police**

Moved by Bill Bowler, Selectman, duly seconded, that the Town authorize the Selectmen to petition the Legislature to allow the Town to provide health or benefit insurance for firefighters and reserve police and/or their families, for such firefighters and police as are killed or disabled in the line of duty; provided that the Legislature may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objective of this petition.

Mr. Bowler explained that at the Annual town Meeting $15,000 was appropriated to insure the call fire fighters and reserve police and/or their families. We are looking into a home rule petition which would be a cheaper way to go. This would authorize the Selectmen to look into it.

There being no further discussion, the Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

There being nothing further to come before the meeting, the Moderator adjourned the meeting to Friday, June 27, 2003 at the Winthrop School where the Special Town Election will be held from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

**A TRUE COPY: ATTEST:**

Theresa M. Fanning

**Theresa M. Fanning, CMC – Town Clerk**

# TOWN OF HAMILTON

## SPECIAL ELECTION

## HELD

## FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2003

## AT

## WINTHROP SCHOOL, HAMILTON, MA

**********

The polls were opened at 7:00 AM by Theresa M. Fanning, Town Clerk.

There were 2,588 votes cast as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Precinct 1 | 1,003 |
| Precinct 2 | 974 |
| Precinct 3 | 611 |

Results as follows:

Ballot Question #1

"Shall the Town of Hamilton be allowed to assess an additional $884,447 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of funding Hamilton's apportioned share of the net operating cost of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2003?"

| | |
|---|---|
| YES | 1,224 |
| NO | 1,350 |
| BLANKS | 14 |

The polls were closed at 8:00 pm. Results were announced by Bruce Ramsey, Town Moderator at 8:20pm

A TRUE COPY: ATTEST:

Theresa M. Fanning

Theresa M. Fanning, CMC – Town Clerk

# 2 -- Town

# H-W School District Meeting

## Tuesday, August 5, 2003

## H-W Regional High School Gym

Moderator Bruce Ramsey opened the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Total Registered Voters in Hamilton --- 5554.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Registered Voter attending meeting: | | 1,833 |
| Hamilton | 1,213 | |
| Wenham | 620 | |
| **VOTE:** | | **1,700** |
| **YES** | **1,349** | |
| **NO** | **351** | |

**A TRUE COPY: ATTEST:**

Theresa M. Fanning

**Theresa M. Fanning, CMC – Town Clerk**

# TOWN OF HAMILTON
# SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
## Held
## Monday, October 20, 2003
## At
## Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School

At the close of registration on October 9, 2003 there were 5,601 registered voters.
215 registered voters were checked in.

Precinct 1 -- 82 Precinct 2 -- 69 Precinct 3 -- 64

Tellers appointed and duly sworn were:

| | |
|---|---|
| Robert Poole, Captain | 56B Moynihan Road |
| Carol Currie | 721 Bay Road |
| John McWane | 175 Woodbury Street |
| Walter Leszczynski | 10 Honeysuckle Road |
| David Neill | 104 Asbury Street |

Moderator Bruce Ramsey, announced a quorum being present and the return on the Warrant showing that it has been properly served, this fall town meeting of the Town of Hamilton now open at 7:40 pm.

Asked all to stand for the flag salute and Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator outlined the procedures of the meeting, then asked if there were any announcements. Moderator recognized the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Paul Ricker.

Selectmen Ricker announced the resignation of Town Clerk Theresa "Mimi" Fanning effective January 31, 2004. Gave a brief history of her years of service to the Town. Thanked her for her many years of service.

Mr. Ricker presented Mimi with a bouquet of flowers while town members gave a standing ovation.

Moderator recognized Candy Wheeler. Candy spoke about Mimi's ability in writing "odes" for everyone's retirement and they don't have one tonight but hope to have one at a later date.

Moderator, Bruce Ramsey, thanked Mimi also and stated that she had the ability to make everyone look good. Spoke about her class of '49 which contained 24 graduates of which 6 have worked in town government, 4 are still active. Said it speaks highly of the class. Thanked Mimi again for a job well done.

Moderator proceeded with warrant.

**ARTICLE 1**
**Reduce No. Shore Regional Vocational Budget**

Moved by Laurie Wilson, duly seconded, that the Town reduce the appropriation for the Town's assessed portion of the North Shore Regional Vocational School District's gross operating and maintenance budget for FY'04 from $147,740 to $89,889.

Laurie went on to explain after the May Town Meeting we received a lower assessment from the North Shore Regional Vocational School

District, believe most of that was from the Voc Tech receiving more in State Aid so the cut our original assessment.

There being no further discussion, Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

**ARTICLE 2**
**Budget Amendments**

Moved by Laurie Wilson, duly seconded that the Town amend the FY'04 departmental budgets by making the following adjustments:

1. For the Board of Public Works, reduce the departmental budget appropriation by $20,000;
2. For Police, transfer $100,000 from the Ambulance Receipts Account to the Police departmental budget and reduce the appropriation from the general fund to the Police budget;
3. For the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District, increase Hamilton's total assessment for the operating budget from $10,253,115 to 10,535,103, and fund the increased assessment in part by the following actions:

a. Raise and appropriate $102,137 additional funds;

b. Transfer $20,000 released from the DPW budget to the school district; and

c. Transfer $100,000 released from the Police budget to the school district;

d. Transfer $57,851 released from the North Shore Regional Vocational School District to the school district.

## EXHIBIT A

TOWN OF HAMILTON
FISCAL YEAR 7/01/04 BUDGET 10-06-03 WORKSHEET

| ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '00 | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '01 | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FISCAL '02 | ACCOUNT | ACCOUNT NAME | TOTAL APPROPRIATION FISCAL '03 | CHANGE | TOTAL RECOMMENDED FISCAL 2004 | REQUESTED CHANGE | NEW TOTAL RECOMMENDED FISCAL 2004 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | POLICE | | | | | |
| 74,452 | 75,023 | 77,636 | 15210-500001 | SALARY OF CHIEF | 81,399 | 2,371 | 83,770 | | 83,770 |
| 710,441 | 717,859 | 764,960 | 15210-500002 | WAGES OF OFFICERS | 847,519 | 16,951 | 864,470 | | 864,470 |
| 30,958 | 32,701 | 33,834 | 15210-500007 | WAGES CLERK STENOGRAPHER | 36,676 | 734 | 37,410 | | 37,410 |
| 21,246 | 26,715 | 27,135 | 15210-540003 | TRAINING | 39,923 | 577 | 40,500 | | 40,500 |
| 25,468 | 42,723 | 43,033 | 15210-530004 | OVERTIME | 48,110 | 860 | 48,970 | | 48,970 |
| 3,040 | 6,176 | 6,463 | 15210-510005 | SPECIAL INVESTIGATION | 8,009 | 141 | 8,150 | | 8,150 |
| 13,032 | 13,316 | 14,995 | 15210-510006 | POLICE COURT DUTY LOCK UP | 18,483 | 367 | 18,850 | | 18,850 |
| 0 | 0 | 900 | 15210-500020 | CLERK LONGEVITY | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 |
| 36,989 | 37,852 | 37,467 | 15210-540008 | EXPENSES | 37,500 | 0 | 37,500 | | 37,500 |
| 0 | 18,018 | 14,776 | 15210-520013 | POLICE RETIREMENT BENEFITS | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 |
| 13,863 | 16,021 | 15,993 | 15210-540010 | UNIFORMS | 16,000 | 0 | 16,000 | | 16,000 |
| 4,912 | 4,827 | 4,873 | 15210-580011 | EQUIPMENT | 5,000 | 0 | 5,000 | | 5,000 |
| 0 | 2,250 | 2,921 | 15210-520021 | COMPUTER R&M | 3,000 | 0 | 3,000 | | 3,000 |
| 24,878 | 26,997 | 27,500 | 15210-580012 | CRUISER | 27,500 | 500 | 28,000 | | 28,000 |
| | | | 25900-595002 | AMBULANCE REIMBURSEMENT | (110,000) | 35,000 | (75,000) | (100,000) | (175,000) |
| | | | | CIVILIAN DEFENSE | | 0 | | | |
| 326 | 489 | 439 | 15291-540001 | AUXILIARY POLICE EXPENSES | 500 | 0 | 500 | | 500 |
| 702 | 127 | 650 | 15291-540002 | AUXILIARY POLICE UNIFORMS | 750 | 0 | 750 | | 750 |
| 1,956 | 1,966 | 1,992 | 15291-540003 | EMERGENCY SERVICES | 2,000 | 0 | 2,000 | | 2,000 |
| | | | | ANIMAL CONTROL/HARBORMASTER/DEER CONTROL | | 0 | | | |
| 0 | 2,725 | 0 | 15292-52001 | CONTRACT | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 |
| 9,497 | 7,086 | 6,936 | 15292-510002 | PATROLLING | 13,600 | (1,400) | 12,200 | | 12,200 |
| 5,308 | 3,236 | 2,178 | 15292-540003 | EXPENSES | 5,000 | 0 | 5,000 | | 5,000 |
| 977,070 | 1,036,107 | 1,084,681 | | | 1,080,969 | 56,101 | 1,137,070 | (100,000) | 1,037,070 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS | | | | | |
| | | | | BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS | | | | | |
| 71,924 | 74,574 | 76,812 | 15421-500003 | DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS | 78,855 | 1,874 | 80,529 | | 80,529 |
| 38,776 | 39,250 | 40,040 | 15421-500004 | MECHANIC WAGES | 40,998 | 1,195 | 42,193 | | 42,193 |
| 3,656 | 2,964 | 2,148 | 15421-530005 | OVERTIME WAGES | 2,500 | 0 | 2,500 | | 2,500 |
| 28,972 | 30,234 | 32,346 | 15421-500006 | ADMINISTRATIVE ASSIST | 33,501 | 966 | 34,467 | | 34,467 |
| 0 | 300 | 600 | 15421-500020 | ADMIN ASST LONGEVITY | 600 | 4,500 | 5,100 | | 5,100 |
| 12,500 | 15,869 | 13,372 | 15421-520008 | FUEL | 18,500 | 0 | 16,500 | | 16,500 |
| 15,146 | 16,854 | 14,879 | 15421-540009 | VEHICLE, EQUIP R&M, GARAGE | 16,000 | 0 | 16,000 | | 16,000 |
| 7,305 | 11,554 | 11,738 | 15421-520010 | UTILITIES | 14,000 | 0 | 14,000 | | 14,000 |
| 671 | 235 | 1,000 | 15421-520011 | ADVERTISING | 700 | 0 | 700 | | 700 |
| 12,094 | 12,972 | 13,547 | 15421-540012 | EXPENSES | 15,000 | 0 | 15,000 | | 15,000 |
| 5,200 | 5,200 | 4,573 | 15421-520013 | EARLY RETIREMENT INCENTIVE | 5,700 | (5,700) | 0 | | 0 |
| 881 | 6,938 | 792 | 15421-540014 | DPW GARAGE MAINTENANCE | 1,500 | 0 | 1,500 | | 1,500 |
| 85,574 | 82,110 | 84,986 | 15421-580025 | DPW CAPITAL PURCHASES | 85,000 | (27,000) | 58,000 | (20,000) | 38,000 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 65450-595002 | WATER REIMBURSEMENTS TRANS | (40,280) | 0 | (40,280) | | (40,280) |
| 282,701 | 298,854 | 296,833 | | | 270,374 | (24,165) | 246,209 | (20,000) | 226,209 |

Laurie Wilson went on to explain the reasons for these changes due to the fact on August 5th Regional District Meeting it was voted an additional School Budget of which Hamilton's share is $281,988, which was rounded off to $282,000 for purposes of Exhibit B. The Finance Committee went to the larger departments so as not to have a Proposition 2 ½ override.

## EXHIBIT B

Hamilton's share of the $403,532 addition to School budget, approved at August 5 Regional District Meeting is 4281,988, which we have rounded to $282,000 for purposes of this Exhibit.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Total:** | $282,000 | Hamilton additional amount |
| **Less:** | 2,000 | Reserve Fund Transfer |
| | 58,000 | Net Savings on Voc Tech |
| | 102,000 | Net Increase in cherry sheet credits |
| | $162,000 | Net offset against the $282,000 |
| **Equals:** | $120,000 | Remainder of Hamilton's additional Amount, to be raised by other savings And transfers, shown below: |
| | | $ 20,000 Reduction in DPW budget (postpone new garage bay). |
| | | $100,000 Reduction to Police budget (apply more ambulance proceeds to offset Police budget) |
| | | $120,000 |

Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

********

**ARTICLE 3**
**Reduce Appropriation**

Moved by Bill Bowler, duly seconded, that the Town reduce the appropriation from $44,600 to $0 for funds for FY'04 to acquire land for water supply near Meadowbrook Farms by eminent domain and further move that the Town appropriate $44,600 to the Stabilization Fund.

Mr. Bowler explained at the June Special Town Meeting the Town appropriated $44,600 in order to acquire two parcels of land that we thought would be possible well sites. Parcels are all ready going through the tax title process. Since that time it turns out they are not suitable for well sites. The money will go back to Stabilization and the parcels will continue to go through the tax title process, the town will probably take title to it without this added expense in about a year.

Following some discussion, Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

********

**ARTICLE 4**
**Depot Square**

Moved by Paul Ricker, duly seconded that the Town appropriate $6,000 from the Stabilization Fund for costs associated with engineering expenses to prepare a septic system plan and design and a subdivision plan of a town owned parcel of land in Depot Square to be offered for development.

Mr. Ricker explained this is part of a development that was started years ago. A parcel of land was put out to bid, but without enough information they retracted all the bids. When the shopping center was finished the

Planning Board came before the Selectmen and wanted to put the parcel out to bid again. The septic system once designed, was no longer approved so we had to bring in a consultant to go over and design a system for Depot Square. We believe it would be an asset to the Town to fund this $6,000. The parcel has been appraised at $177,000, so with all the documents in place we hope to bring in bids higher than that. It would be a commercial building which would be on the tax base. The selectmen support this.

There being no further discussion, Moderator announced since this is coming from the Stabilization Fund, this would require a 2/3 vote, and called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: UNDECIDED**

**Called for a show of voter cards.**

**Moderator then declared: MOTION PASSES**

**********

**ARTICLE 5**
**Weaver Pond**

Moved by Jim Bryant, duly seconded that the Town take **NO ACTION** on this Article.

Mr. Bryant explained it is too late to properly get bids and probably too late to do the work. So, suggest, we take NO ACTION tonight, go through the proper processing of bids and bring it up at the Spring Town Meeting.

There being no further discussion, Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES TO TAKE NO ACTION**

**********

**ARTICLE 6**
**Prior Fiscal Years' Bills**

***Requires 9/10ths Vote***

Moved by Paul Ricker, duly seconded that the Town raise and appropriate $967.13 for bills fo prior fiscal years.

Mr. Ricker explained this is for a bill left over from last fiscal year. Mr. Ricker explained this is for the Public Safety Building.

There being no questions or discussion, Moderator explained that since this applies to a prior years bills majority vote won't do. A 2/3's vote won't do. This motion requires a 9/10$^{th}$ Vote, called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY**

**********

**ARTICLE 7**
**Increase Town Counsel Budget**

Moved by Bill Bowler, duly seconded, that the Town raise and appropriate $15,000 to increase the Town Counsel Budget for FY'04.

Mr. Bowler explained we appropriated $25,000 at the Spring Town Meeting for Town Counsel's expenses regarding litigation but the Town is involved in a number of matters including a trial due to start in the winter, so we are asking that the Town Counsel litigation budget be increased by $15,000.

There being no further discussion, the Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

**ARTICLE 8**
**Transfer Tax Petition To the Legislature**

Moved by Jim Bruant, duly seconded, that the Town authorize the Selectmen to petition the Legislature to allow the Town, upon the affirmative vote as a regular or special election at which the question was placed on the ballot, to assess a tax on the transfer of real estate within the Town, such tax to be one half (1/2) percent of the gross selling price; provided that the Legislature may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objective of this petition.

Mr. Bryant, using a Power Point presentation, gave a lengthy explanation Of this Article. Also explained are not asking to pass a by-law, we are asking that you allow us (Selectmen) to petition the Legislature for legal ability to do this, once they do that then we come back to Town Meeting with a specific proposal and then go to ballot. Stated this is not new, is very popular in other states.

After lengthy discussion, both pro and con, Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: UNDECIDED**

Moderator called for a show of voter cards:

**VOTER CARDS: UNDECIDED**

Moderator then called for a counted vote:

**YES - 92**
**NO - 101 MOTION DEFEATED**

**********

**ARTICLE 9**
**Property Tax Exemption Petition to the Legislature**

Moved by Jim Bryant, duly seconded that the Town authorize the Selectmen to petition the Legislature to provide certain property tax exemptions, such petition to be substantially in the form set forth in Exhibit C to the Fall Warrant Book [with the changes and corrections as read by the moderator], including the Section 2 exemption qualifications as specifically approved by this Town Meeting; provided that the Legislature may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objective of this petition.

## EXHIBIT C

PROPOSED ACT FOR THE EXEMPTIONOF CERTAIN QUALIFYING REAL ESTATE FROM PROPERTY TAXES IN THE TOWN OF HAMILTON

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in the General Court Assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. With respect to each qualifying parcel of real property classified as Class One, residential, and at the option of the board of selectmen annually, there shall be an exemption from property taxes equal to not more than twenty percent of the average assessed value of all Class One residential parcels within the town of Hamilton. Such exemption shall be applied only to the principal residence of a taxpayer as used by the taxpayer for income tax purposes.

**SECTION 2.** Real property shall qualify for the exemption set forth in Section 1 if either of the following criteria, is met, each criterion to be included in the petition only if so accepted by a majority of the voters at the fall 2003 Town Meeting:

a. The domicile of the qualifying real estate is owned and occupied by a person or family where the total annual household income is less than the percentage of
the area-wide median household income, set by the Board of Selectmen for such fiscal year, which shall not exceed 80 percent; or

b. The domicile of the qualifying real estate is owned and occupied by persons having reached the age set by the Board of Selectmen for such fiscal year, not to be lower than age 65.

For the purposes of this Section 2, the area-wide median income shall be the area-wide median income as determined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**SECTION 3.** This exemption shall be in addition to any exemption allowable under any General Law of the Commonwealth.

**SECTION 4.** In no instance shall the taxable valuation of any qualifying property after all applicable exemptions be reduced below ten percent of its full and fair cash valuation, except through the applicability of G.L. Ch. 58, Sec 8A and of G. L. Ch. 59, Sec. 5, clause Eighteenth.

**SECTION 5.** Where, under the provisions of G.L. Ch. 59, Sec. 5, the exemption is based upon an amount of tax rather than on valuation, the reduction of taxable valuation for the purposes of Section 4 shall be computed by dividing the said amount of tax by the residential class tax rate of the Town and multiplying the result by one thousand dollars.

**SECTION 6.** For the purposes of this act, "parcel" shall mean a unit of real property as defined by the assessors in accordance with the deed for such property and shall include a condominium unit.

**SECTION 7.** A taxpayer aggrieved by the failure to receive a residential exemption under this act may apply for such residential exemption to the assessors, in writing, on a form approved by the assessors within three months after the date on which the bill or notice of assessment was sent.

**SECTION 8.** Acceptance of this act by the Town of Hamilton shall be by an affirmative vote of a majority of the voters at any regular or special election at which the question of acceptance was placed on the ballot. This act shall become effective on the ninetieth day following said affirmative vote.

**SECTION 9.** The acceptance of this act may be revoked by an affirmative vote of a majority of the voters at any regular or special town election at which the question of revocation has been placed on the ballot by a two-thirds vote of the then sitting members of the Board of Selectmen. Revocation of the act shall become effective on the ninetieth day following said affirmative vote.

**********

Moderator then went on to explain that what we've just heard is the main motion under Article 9. The Selectmen have requested that we take separate votes on whether to include clauses a and b of Section 2 in Exhibit C in the main motion. In order to comply with this request, before we vote on the main motion, I will entertain separate motions to include clause a and clause b of Section 2 in the main motion and we will vote on

the motions on these clauses separately before we vote on the main motion.
Also, if there are any motions to amend clauses a or b of Section 2, we will take them up for voting when we take up the motions on each clause. I hope this procedure will allow us to have a full and fair discussion of Article 9 before we sort out and vote on important details.

Moderator then recognized Selectman Bryant. Mr. Bryant requested he read both motions in Clause a and Clause b so we can discuss both and then vote separately. Moderator approved request.

**Motion on Clause a** moved by Jim Bryant, duly seconded, that the Town authorize the Selectmen to include as clause a in Section 2 in the petition to the Legislature regarding certain property tax exemptions, authorization to adopt a property tax exemption in which the domicile of the qualifying real estate is owned and occupied by a person or persons whose annual income is the percentage of the area-wide median income set by the Board of Selectmen for such fiscal year, which shall not exceed 80 percent.

**Motion on Clause b** moved by Jim Bryant, duly seconded, that the Town authorize the Selectmen to include as clause b in Section 2 in the petition to the Legislature regarding certain property tax exemptions, authorization to adopt a property tax exemption in which the domicile of the qualifying real estate is owned and occupied by a person or persons having reached the age of 65 or over, which qualifying age shall be set by the Board of Selectmen for such fiscal year, and such domicile has been owned and occupied by such person or persons as principal residence for five years preceding application for this exemption. For purposes of this exemption, either spouse must be 65 years or older before the beginning of the fiscal year for which an exemption is sought.

Mr. Bryant explained again this is not a by-law, just giving the Selectmen permission to petition the Legislation. Using Power Point presentation, Mr. Bryant continued to explain the motions.

Moderator called for questions or discussion on any part of the motion. Recognized Town Counsel, Donna McKenna.

Ms. McKenna made an amendment to the motion on **Clause a** to add the word "Household" before the word "income" in lines 6 and 7 and to read "qualifying real estate is owned and occupied by a person or persons whose annual household income is the percentage of the area-wide median household income set by the Board of Selectmen.

Motion was seconded. Town Counsel explained by adding the word "household" it makes the motion consistent with the Article in the Warrant.

There being no questions or discussion on the amendment, the Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: AMENDMENT PASSES

**********

Moderator returned to discussion on motions. After very lengthy discussion, Moderator called for the first vote which will be on Clause a Section 2 as follows:

**Clause a** ---The Town authorize the Selectmen to include as clause a in Section 2 in the petition to the Legislature regarding certain property tax exemptions, authorization to adopt a property tax exemption in which the domicile of the qualifying real estate is owned and occupied by a person or persons whose annual *household* income is the percentage of the area-wide median *household* income set by the Board of Selectmen for such fiscal year, which shall not exceed 80 percent.

**VOICE VOTE: Clause a –AS READ PASSES**

**********

Moderator called for vote on Clause b in Section 2 as follows:

**Clause b** --- The Town authorize the Selectmen to include as clause b in Section 2 in the petition to the Legislature regarding certain property tax exemptions, authorization to adopt a property tax exemption in which the domicile of the qualifying real estate is owned and occupied by a person or persons having reached the age of 65 or over, which qualifying age shall be set by the Board of Selectmen for such fiscal year, and such domicile has been owned and occupied by such person or persons as principal residence for five years preceding application for this exemption. For purposes of this exemption, either spouse must be 65 years or older before the beginning of the fiscal year for which an exemption is sought.

**VOICE VOTE: Clause b -- DEFEATED**
**(will not be included in Main Motion)**

**********

Mr. Lyman Stookey made a motion to amend Section I of Exhibit C to change "not more than twenty percent" to read "not more than ten percent".

Moderator called for a vote on the amendment.

**VOICE VOTE: DEFEATED**
**(amendment does not pass)**

**********

Moderator then proceeded to the Main Motion as follows:

The town authorize the Selectmen to petition the Legislature to provide certain property tax exemptions, such petition to be substantially in the form set forth in Exhibit C to the Fall Warrant Book, including the Section 2 exemption qualifications as specifically approved by this Town Meeting, *meaning it includes Clause a but does not include Clause b in Section 2,* provided that the Legislature may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objective of this petition.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

**********

**ARTICLE 10**
**Interest Rate on Deferred Taxes Petition to the Legislature**

Moved by Bill Bowler, duly seconded that the Town authorize the Selectmen to petition the Legislature to allow the Town, upon the affirmative vote at a regular or special election at which the question was placed on the ballot, to permit the Board of Selectmen annually to set the interest rate payable on taxes

deferred pursuant to G.L. c. 59, § 5, clause Forty-first A, until the sale of the property or death of the taxpayer receiving the deferral, such tax not to exceed the amount set in said section 5, clause Forty-first A; provided that the Legislature may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objective of this petition.

Mr. Bowler explained that currently, under Massachusetts General Law, there is a tax deferral for certain seniors, however by statute, the town must collect taxes with interest at the rate of 8%, so there is not much incentive for the folks to use this program. So we are proposing a home rule petition which would allow the town to vary the interest rate on some formula that would relate to the prime rate. The hope is this would make the program more attractive to seniors.

There being no further questions or discussion the Moderator called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES**

*********

There being no further articles to come before the meeting, the Moderator dissolved the meeting at 9:55 PM.

**A TRUE COPY: ATTEST:**

Theresa M. Fanning, CMC

**Theresa M. Fanning, CMC – Town Clerk**